

FINANCIAL TIMES

EUROPE'S BUSINESS NEWSPAPER

No. 29,631

Thursday May 23 1985

D 8523 B

Oil industry: the art of living dangerously, Page 26

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Italy	Rs. 15	U.S.A.	Rs. 1.50

World news

Business summary

Lebanon car blast claims 60 lives

A large car bomb was detonated in Christian east Beirut, killing at least 60 people and injuring about 100. Among the dead were 15 schoolchildren who were in a bus near the site of the blast.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which came as the mainly Moslem western half of the capital also lurches into further bloodshed and political turmoil.

The fighting around the Palestinian camps in the south east of the Lebanese capital took a new twist with the Shin Moslem militia Amal coming into direct confrontation with Syria. Page 6

Mies tower rejected

The UK Government rejected a scheme to build an 18-storey glass office block, designed by the late Mies van der Rohe, in the City of London. The developer, Peter Palumbo, wanted to demolish listed Victorian buildings to build the glass tower, next to the Mansion House. Patrick Jenkin, Environment Secretary, rejected the design as "obtrusive" but did not rule out redevelopment on the site if these were "acceptable proposals." Page 19

Spanish gas blast

At least 55 people were injured in Granada, Spain, six of them seriously, when a gas explosion destroyed a restaurant and damaged buildings.

Eta kills two police

The Basque guerrilla organisation Eta claimed responsibility for the deaths of two policemen whose bodies were found near the northern coastal city of San Sebastian.

Tamils quit homes

About 200 Tamils have been ordered by Sri Lankan troops to leave their homes as security forces sweep through areas of the country in search of Tamil separatist rebels.

Albanian thaw

Albania is showing signs that it intends at least partially to reduce its political and economic isolation by negotiating with two of its neighbours, Yugoslavia and Italy, on improving trade and communications. Page 2

Peru food riot

Protesters looted food markets and smashed car windows in a riot in Peru's northern city of Chimbote during a 24-hour general strike.

New army chief

President François Mitterrand named his chief military aide, General Jean Sauvain, as the new chief of staff of the armed forces.

Judge on trial

A second Australian judge was committed for trial on charges of trying to pervert the course of justice in cases concerning an immigration racket.

Moscow fares rise

Moscow tram fares (now three kopecks) and trolleybus fares (four kopecks) are to go up to five kopecks (6 cents).

Son of 'spy' held

The U.S. Navy detained a seaman aboard the American aircraft carrier Nimitz off Israel in connection with an espionage charge already lodged against his father.

Blazes controlled

All but three of the 40 blazes in Florida have been brought under control. The worst fires in the state's history destroyed more than 150,000 acres of brush, swamp and timber. Page 30

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European groups line up for star wars contracts

BY ALAN FRIEDMAN IN MILAN AND DAVID MARSH IN PARIS

ITALIAN and French high-technology companies yesterday confirmed their growing interest in taking part in the research phase of Washington's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

Aware, however, that France was making an attempt to develop a European alternative to SDI involving collaboration to apply so-called star wars technologies to civilian purposes, spokesmen in both countries also emphasised their desire to see a successful launch for France's Eu- reka proposals.

In Paris, Société Européenne de Propulsion (SEP), a state-controlled rocket motor maker, said it was "interested" in possible participation in SDI. Reosc, a precision optical manufacturer, which has already won a contract for a large mirror to be used in laser experiments by the U.S. Navy, said it hoped to receive further orders as a result of continuing contacts with Washington over high-powered laser applications.

President François Mitterrand has ruled out French participation in SDI on political grounds, but French officials say the Government has no objection to individual contracts between French companies and the U.S. Defence Department, provided such work is re-

lated to the development of liquid-fuelled propulsion systems, he added.

Reosc, which is a division of the SFIM aero-equipment group, said separately that it delivered to the U.S. a \$900,000 1.85 metre mirror for focusing lasers. Last year, M. Dominique de Poteves, the chairman, said contacts were continuing about orders for a greater number of mirrors which would be connected with SDI research.

In Italy Commander Enzo Brancaccio, an official at the Associazione Nazionale Industrie Elettroniche (Anie), the Italian electronics manufacturers association, said yesterday that the industry would be pressing the Craxi Government to allow Italian companies to compete for contracts.

He said the electronics industry, particularly system electronics and defence electronics companies, would be preparing to work with the United States. Commander Brancaccio stressed that that need not rule out Italian co-operation on the Eureka initiative.

Yesterday, Sig Luigi Granelli, Italy's Science and Research Minister, called for "maximum cohesion in forming the European position."

Reagan offers to halve MX programme, Page 3

Kohl under pressure to cut unemployment

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN BONN

WITH a fresh verbal broadside from Herr Franz Josef Strauß ringing in its ears, the leadership of the badly shaken Christian Democrats (CDU) met last night to try to work out a preliminary agreement on emergency measures to cut West Germany's 9.3 per cent unemployment rate.

What was first planned several weeks ago as a low-key strategy session has now been transformed into a vital occasion to restore a semblance of order to the ruling centre-right coalition, after the shock waves sent by the CDU's electoral rout in North Rhine-Westphalia on May 12.

That nerve-shaking vote of no confidence in the Government's economic policies has brought to the surface all the simmering rivalries within the three-party alliance. But the sharpest attacks have, as usual, come from Herr Strauß, leader of the Christian Democrats' Bavarian sister, the CSU.

PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan promised strong backing to U.S. steel industry in its fight to strengthen controls on steel imports from the EEC.

U.S. CAPITAL goods outlook darkened when the Commerce Department reported that new orders for capital goods in April fell sharply for the second consecutive month.

BULGARIA launched a \$100m credit in the Euromarkets, its first such borrowing since 1979. Page 29

EEC met a frosty reception when it launched a \$1.8bn, five-year floating rate note in the Eurobond market. Page 29

A NEW merchant banking venture to advise Mexican companies has been formed by the three Lazard houses in London, New York and Paris, and three Mexican banking partners. The group will sell advice on corporate finance and arrange foreign investment and trade transactions.

BUNZL, British paper products distributor and merchant, bid £117m (\$140m) for Brummer, a bearings distribution group. Brummer will resist the bid, which is conditional on its dropping a £20m offer for Energy Services and Electronics. News analysis, Page 33

GILL & DUFFUS, London commodity broker best known for cocoa trading, said it was holding talks with an unnamed company that might lead to a bid for the group. Speculation centred on Deloitte, but no comment was available from the international agricultural trading group. Page 30

The main bone of contention, dividing the CDU from the CSU as well as the liberal Free Democrats (FDP) and wide sections of industry and the unions, is the timing of the planned DM 20bn (\$6.53bn) of tax cuts, currently scheduled to go ahead in two roughly equal parts, next year and in 1988.

But Herr Strauss yesterday displayed a needless inclination towards self destruction by refusing to accelerate the entire package to a date before the next federal elections, due in February 1989.

After North Rhine-Westphalia, he wrote yesterday in the CSU newspaper *Bayerkurier*, disquiet in the ruling parties was such that something had to be done well before the election.

Last night, however, Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the CDU Finance Minister and most recent advocate of the two-phase timing, again insisted that he would not be

moved. He flatly ruled out any pre-election pump-priming "of the sort which wrecked the Social Democrats (SPD)" before they lost power in 1982.

Amid the confusion, which has once more provoked fierce criticism of the leadership qualities of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, all that seemed clear last night was that the crisis in West German construction industry would be a prime beneficiary of the emergency measures.

Herr Stoltenberg confirmed that the Government would look at possible extra public spending for the sector, where 200,000 jobs are at risk this year alone, within the 1988 draft budget, which is due for approval by July 1. The Bavarian leader, for his part, demanded that federal spending on city renovation should be trebled to DM 1bn.

At the same time, much support exists for extra incentives to boost private construction.

initial final assembly work is expected to begin in the autumn of 1987. The car plant should be completed during 1989.

Volvo group profits after financial items totalled SKr 2.2bn in the first quarter against SKr 2.6bn in the first three months of 1984. Income per share dropped to SKr 13.10 from SKr 15.60 a year earlier, dampening soaring Swedish car sales. The Volvo board decided yesterday to press ahead with plans to build a new SKr 2bn (\$225m) car plant at Uddevalla in south-west Sweden. The plant will have an eventual capacity of producing 80,000 cars a year in two shifts, and

Sales during the first quarter were virtually unchanged at SKr 21.5bn. Excluding oil trading which fell by 12 per cent - and Volvo Baf, the construction equipment subsidiary that has been merged with Clark Michigan of the U.S. and

Volvo is to promote the sale of shares across the counter at Sweden's 2,200 post offices. The group already has 160,000 shareholders but is anxious to promote its stock as "the people's share" in Sweden.

Shipments of trucks were lower than a year earlier chiefly due to the weak market in the Middle East. New orders declined and the order backlog was lower at the end of March than a year earlier.

The size of the group's liquid funds, which stood at SKr 16.7bn at the end of the first quarter, helped give Volvo interest earnings of SKr 92m in the first quarter compared with net interest expenses of SKr 65m in the first quarter of 1984.

Volvo enjoyed a record year in 1984 with a jump of 84 per cent in profits after financial items. Returns on capital employed in the car division exceeded 40 per cent last year and the car operations alone accounted for 70 per cent of the group operating profits.

Volvo's earnings drop by 15% Page 15

Strasbourg MPs win key case against ministers

BY OUR LEGAL AND FOREIGN STAFF

THE EUROPEAN Court yesterday handed down a landmark judgment finding the Council of Ministers guilty of breaching the Treaty of Rome because they have failed to ensure to provide transport services across the Community.

The judgment was first ever delivered against the Council of Ministers on a complaint by the European Parliament, which in this case was supported by the European Commission. It establishes for the first time that the parliament can sue the council to court and will be seen by parliamentarians as opening a new door to expanding the powers of the Community.

Yesterday, Sig Luigi Granelli, Italy's Science and Research Minister, called for "maximum cohesion in forming the European position."

Reagan offers to halve MX programme, Page 3

Chairman quits embattled U.S. defence group

BY PAUL TAYLOR IN NEW YORK

GENERAL DYNAMICS, the biggest U.S. defence contractor, which is at the centre of a barrage of allegations about Pentagon overcharging and business misconduct, announced yesterday that its chairman, Mr David S. Lewis, was to leave.

Mr Lewis, who said he had been planning to retire since the later part of 1983, but had stayed on to help the St Louis-based group deal with "extremely heavy outside pressures," will be replaced by Mr Stanley Pace, vice-chairman of the TRW Corporation, another big U.S. defence contractor.

Mr Pace, aged 63, will become vice-chairman of General Dynamics, particularly system electronics and defence electronics companies, would be preparing to work with the United States. Commander Brancaccio stressed that that need not rule out Italian co-operation on the Eureka initiative.

The court's decision was immediately welcomed as a triumph for the parliament by Mr Georgios Anastassopoulos, chairman of the EEC transport committee, who said: "This decision has primary importance at the institutional level as well as for the implementation of a Community transport policy."

By contrast, the secretariat of the Council of Ministers remained silent while expecting a possible reaction from a meeting of EEC transport ministers in Brussels today.

Mr Lehman, who has steadfastly defended his company against the charges, is widely credited with turning round the once-ailing group and building it into the nation's biggest defence contractor with profits last year of almost \$400m and major military contracts ranging from F-16 fighter jets to M1 tanks, cruise missiles and Trident nuclear submarines.

Yesterday, in a brief statement, he said he was "confident" that under Stanley Pace's leadership, the men and women of General Dynamics

EUROPEAN NEWS

Plan for European TV production pact

BY RAYMOND SNODDY IN LONDON

CHANNEL 4, an independent UK television channel, is playing a key role in trying to set up joint programme production agreements with major European television organisations.

The aim is to cut production costs through co-operation, and plough the savings into a higher level of quality European television production and reduce the level of U.S. imports.

A draft agreement has already been produced for joint production between Channel 4, Antenne 2 of France and RAI of Italy.

Its main recommendation is that

participating television or film organisations should devote a proportion of their total programme expenditure on joint productions. This proportion could then increase by a series of annual increments.

The French and the British Governments are believed to be interested in the plan - partly as an alternative to suggestions within the EEC Commission for the setting up of a programme-making fund to boost European production.

The British Government in particular believes a "self-help" initiative is more likely to work than the creation of a new European pro-

gramme-making bureaucracy.

By avoiding duplication of pro-

gramme making in different Euro-

pean countries, substantial savings

are believed possible.

Overall, European production expenditure is considerably larger than in the U.S. But the European effort is dissipated because of duplication in 18 nation states with different languages and cultures.

A meeting will be held in Paris tomorrow attended by television companies from six European nations to try to agree a co-ordinated approach.

The initiative began as the result

of a joint production deal put together by Mr Justin Dukes, managing director of Channel 4.

Channel 4 and Antenne 2 have recently completed a film drama called *Les Louves* made by bilingual actors. Both organisations are said to be very happy with the result and the cost to each is 60 per cent of what it would have been if they had acted alone.

The initiative attracted the attention of the French Government and Channel 4 executives were invited for discussions at the Elysee Palace.

Channel 4 believes that as much

as 20 per cent of European programme production could be produced on a shared basis. Music, sport and the arts are seen as particularly appropriate.

Senior executives of six television organisations representing Britain, France, Austria, Switzerland, Italy and West Germany, met in Mainz, Germany, last Monday. The discussions centred on joint production of European drama.

The meeting in Paris tomorrow will try to co-ordinate the approach of the six with the draft proposals already hammered out between Channel 4, Antenne 2 and RAI.

EEC clash looms on drivers' working hours

BY PAUL CHEESERIGHT IN BRUSSELS

TRANSPORT MINISTERS of the European Community, already chastised by the Court of Justice, today face the prospect of another institutional row, this time with the Commission over the length of time drivers should be allowed to work.

The Commission is making it clear that it will withdraw proposals to revise the legal working hours of drivers if the ministers seek to replace them with less flexible suggestions on the balance between driving and rest periods.

Officials of the Ten are broadly in agreement on working hours but have adopted a

different approach from that of the Commission, whose proposals are very close to those acceptable to the Parliament and negotiated by both sides of industry.

If the Commission carries through its threat, it will be the first time it has withdrawn a proposal placed before ministers. To take decisions, ministers legally need before them a Commission proposal.

But the issue could put the transport ministers into the Court of Justice for a second time, as there are differing views about the Commission's right to withdraw proposals. Commission lawyers say they

can be withdrawn, but council lawyers say they cannot.

In the early days of the present Commission, M. Jacques de Larosiere, the president, claimed that the withdrawal of proposals was a weapon which could be used in discussions in the Council of Ministers bogged down.

That has notoriously been the case in the Transport Council - hence the action by the European Parliament, which led yesterday to a court decision against the ministers for their failure to take liberalising moves in line with the Treaty of Rome, setting up the EEC. But today's meeting of mini-

sters is unlikely to show that the court decision has had much effect on speeding deliberations.

The response of Italy, currently president of the EEC, to the court action has been to devise an alternative transport "master plan" to the other Nine.

Although this document lacks a timetable either for liberalising transport policy or for harmonising existing practice, it is now accompanied by about 50 reservations from national delegations. It is therefore unlikely to be accepted. Italy had been hoping for rapid acceptance as a move towards the Treaty's undertaking to reach a common transport policy.

U.S. warning on steel export restraints

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN NEW YORK

THE U.S. Steel industry has warned the EEC that it will press the Reagan Administration to stiffen the current agreement on steel export restraints when it comes to renegotiate the deal in December.

The warning followed a return to the offensive by European foreign ministers over U.S. steel import policy.

In particular, the U.S. manufacturers are aiming to bring the European producers under an export licensing system of the type that has recently been negotiated with other trading partners.

They are also considering the extension of the original 1982 restraint agreement to stainless steel products. Under the terms of the 1982 agreement, EEC steel exports are limited to 5.4 per cent of the

U.S. market, but this restriction mainly applies to carbon steel products.

The U.S. steel industry's position on the EEC was laid out yesterday by Mr David Hoag, chairman of LTV Steel, at the annual meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute in New York.

"I read in the paper that the Europeans are approaching this negotiation with their concerns," said Mr Hoag. "They should understand that our Government and the domestic steel industry have their own list of needs to be met if there is going to be a successful renewal of this agreement. We will only defer enforcing our rights under our current trade laws if we believe that we have an agreement that is fair to us."

Mr Hoag's comments were backed up by even more forceful remarks from other steel industry executives, who said that the EEC would be receiving an "extremely generous" deal on these terms given the way European manufacturers had violated the agreement in the past.

"We want to avoid the type of abuses that occurred in the old system," said another senior executive. "We want the same arrangements as those we have with Japan, no more and no less."

Concern over the future of the EEC agreement comes in the wake of President Reagan's decision last September to limit imports to the U.S. to 18.5 per cent of the finished steel market, and 1.7 per cent of un-

finished products.

Since then, Administration officials have been engaged in a series of intensive negotiations with many steel exporters, and have reached agreement with several of them.

However, Mr Hoag said yesterday that he expected steel imports this year to amount to around 24 per cent of the market. After averaging 29.2 per cent in 1983, imports came to 30.9 per cent in January, he said, falling to 27.1 per cent in February, and to 24.5 per cent in March.

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, Conservative leader, said on Monday that he would expect the president to resign if New Democracy carries the day on June 2.

The Conservatives denounced the presidential election as unconstitutional, and challenged the Government to a general election contest, while refusing to recognise Mr. Sartziatis.

The President has angrily rejected Mr. Mitsotakis' suggestion and says he intends to serve his five-year term "to the last day."

He was proposed as a presidential candidate by the Socialists after a surprise decision not to support the re-election of Mr. Constantine Karamanlis, a Conservative. He was elected thanks to a voting alliance in Parliament between the Socialists and the pro-Moscow Communist opposition.

Mr. Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, has now called on Mr. Mitsotakis to make clear whether he still intends to challenge the President after the latter's declared intention not to resign voluntarily. He warned that the Conservatives risk plunging the country into a constitutional crisis.

Mr. de Larosiere suggested that Europe was plagued by inefficient pricing policies, fiscal policies which discriminated against investment, savings and employment, excessive governmental regulation, and protectionism. He said that these had been a root cause of unemployment.

Turning to the developing

conflicts, he underlined the need for continuing adjustment efforts.

Steelmakers' production quotas tightened

BY PAUL CHEESERIGHT IN BRUSSELS

PRODUCTION quotas for steelmakers in the European Community are being tightened up for the third quarter.

The European Commission yesterday announced quota cuts for all the products, except wire rods, covered by the EEC control system designed to provide stability in the market while companies restructuring.

Steel demand tends to slip in the third quarter as plants close for the summer holiday and the Commission has therefore continued the restrictive policy which was evident in its quota calculations for the second quarter.

But it also remains concerned

about the patchy demand in specific sectors - cars and construction, for example.

The market has remained steady for wire rod, however,

and minimum prices, also set by the Commission, have been held. Reports from the market suggest that although the steelmakers have complained about the restrictive quotas, supply and demand are at present in balance, although in some respects the minimum prices are not being observed.

This is especially the case for merchant bars, where some French plants are said to be very aggressive on the market, and for coils in France where the market is weak.

But overall, output levels in April were just over 5 per cent more than a year before at 10.3m tonnes of crude steel. In the first month of the quarter production at 10.9m was the highest in a single month for over two years.

It was thanks to this vote that the Socialists scraped together the required majority for their candidate. Many constitutional experts dispute the constitutionality of the presidential election.

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AMERICAN NEWS

The Mulroney Government promises its first Federal Budget will be 'tough but fair,' writes Bernard Simon in Toronto

Canada's Tory leadership faces the economic acid test

THE CREDIBILITY of Canada's eight-month-old Progressive Conservative Government will be on the line tonight when Mr Michael Wilson, Finance Minister, presents his first budget to Parliament in Ottawa.

The budget is seen in many quarters as an acid test of the Government's ability to provide the decisive leadership which was expected from the Tories after their landslide election win last September, but which they have so far been slow to deliver. If Mr Wilson fails to come to grips with the country's economic problems, there is considerable concern that international financial markets will reassess prospects for the Canadian economy.

Mr Wilson has given few clues to his strategy for dealing with a worrisome budget shortfall that is proportionately far larger than the U.S. deficit. Debt servicing has become the fastest growing item of Federal Government spending. It is expected to consume 36 per cent of government revenues this year.

Mr Wilson has so far merely said that the budget will be "tough but fair," suggesting that at least some tax increases and cuts in Government spending are planned. Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister, said earlier this week that cutting the deficit will be a key aim of the budget.



Levesque: prone to gaffes in public.

No astute Canada-watcher expected the Mulroney Adminis-

Parti Quebecois in disarray as by-election losses loom

THE Parti Quebecois Government of Premier René Levesque is in deepening disarray as four by-elections approach on June 3, Robert Gibbons reports from Montreal.

The PQ is expected to lose all four, including one to M. Robert Bourassa, the Liberal Party premier of Quebec from 1970 to 1976 and the re-elected leader of the opposition Quebec Liberals. If that proves true, M. Levesque would have lost all 28 by-elections since coming to power on a separatist platform in 1976 though he did win two general elections on the way. He would face a

crisis in the provincial legislature.

The PQ holds 62 seats, the Liberals 49, independent six and there are five vacancies. The independents are mostly disaffected PQ members.

Several cabinet ministers, including M. Jacques Parizeau, the Finance Minister, and some backbenchers resigned last autumn after M. Levesque declared that the independence from Canada option would be dropped from the PQ platform in the next election, which must be held by next spring at the latest.

In shifting his political stance, M. Levesque was aware of his own party's problems.

casting loss of interest in independence among Quebecers and of the popularity of Canada's Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, as a Quebecer, in the province.

Since then, the rift in the Cabinet and within the party has widened on the issues of independence and whether a form of special status for the French-speaking province can be worked out with the Mulroney Government.

An unpopular budget last month has made many Quebecers and complaints abroad that the provincial government is no longer making any major decisions.

M. Levesque finally decided

to call the four by-elections, hoping to score points with a list of constitutional proposals for Quebec's status within Canada.

The premier has been irritable and sometimes incoherent in the provincial legislature and prone to gaffes in his public appearances.

Yet in spite of his lagging

public support for the PQ, he has led M. Bourassa in the opinion polls.

The provincial election is now expected in the autumn but the speculation is rising whether Mr Levesque himself



Wilson: few clues on budget strategy.

On the energy front, the Government has set out a timetable for dismantling key provisions of the controversial National Energy Program, initiated by the Liberals in 1980. A revenue tax on oil and gas producers will be phased out over the next four years and domestic oil prices will be decontrolled on June 1.

Mr Wilson is expected to announce in the budget the abolition of the much-criticised "back-in" provision of the NEP, which has given the Canadian Government an automatic right to 25 per cent of new oil and gas discoveries in the Arctic and off the East coast.

The new energy policy, which is deeply influenced by a Tory Government in the main producing province of Alberta, has complicated Mr Wilson's plans for a deficit-cutting budget. Barring an energy boom, the costs to the exchequer of the new measures will far outweigh savings. So concessions to producers will almost certainly have to be offset by increases in consumer taxes on petroleum products.

Mr Wilson now has to balance his need for higher revenues against the knowledge that big tax increases on oil and gas consumption will diminish the Tories' chance of sustaining their minority Government in Ontario.

Reagan offers to cut MX programme

BY REGINALD DALE, U.S. EDITOR IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan, faced with the threat of a serious defeat in the Republican-controlled Senate, has offered, at least temporarily, to halve the size of his controversial MX intercontinental missile programme.

In desperate negotiations to stave off an even bigger blow to the programme, the White House has offered to hold deployment at 50 of the 10-warhead missiles while considering if the full complement of 100 that Mr Reagan wants is really needed.

The concession in effect acknowledges that, for the foreseeable future, Mr Reagan has no chance of persuading an increasingly hostile Congress to field the full MX force.

The White House hurriedly moved to its fall-back position on the missile after it became clear that an amendment that would cap deployment at 40 had a good chance of passing the Senate. Voting on the amendment, sponsored by Democratic Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia, was expected later last night.

The new threat to the MX programme comes less than a month after Mr Reagan triumphantly succeeded in winning Congressional support for a

Sanctions Bill success

A BILL imposing U.S. economic sanctions on South Africa has easily cleared its first hurdle in the House of Representatives, suggesting that it will pass without major changes when final voting takes place early next month, Reginald Dale reports.

The Anti-Apartheid Act, sponsored by a bipartisan coalition of more than 100 of the House's 435 members, would prohibit new loans to South Africa, end new investment, ban imports into the

U.S. capital goods orders fall sharply in April

BY STEWART FLEMING IN WASHINGTON

NEW ORDERS for capital goods in the U.S. fell sharply in April for the second consecutive month, the Commerce Department reported.

Although overall durable goods orders rose 1 per cent in April after declining in February and March, non-defence capital goods orders fell 6.5 per cent after a 7.8 per cent fall in March.

Mr Henry Wallich, Federal Reserve Governor, said yesterday: "The economy is in good shape with the exception of the budget deficit and the trade deficit." He doubted the U.S. economy was heading for a mild recession.

Mr Wallich noted a slowing

Argentina 'near deal with IMF on standby loan'

BY JIMMY BURNS IN BUENOS AIRES

THE ARGENTINE Government yesterday claimed to be entering the final phase of negotiations with the International Monetary Fund on a \$1.6bn (£921m) standby agreement needed to unlock a \$4.2bn loan from creditor banks.

Mr Jose Luis Machines, the Argentine under-secretary for the economy, who has been negotiating with the Fund, said: "The technical aspects are now practically concluded, so I am optimistic there will be an agreement by the end of next week."

He was speaking on the eve of his departure for Washington to resume talks with the IMF.

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WORLD TRADE NEWS

KWU shares in order for Greek power station

By JOHN DAVIES IN FRANKFURT

AN INTERNATIONAL consortium involving Kraftwerk Union (KWU) of West Germany, has won an order against stiff competition for a 300 Mw brown coal-fired power station in Greece.

The contract, which envisages a high degree of local manufacture, is worth a total of about DM 500m (\$128m).

The power station, for the public electricity network, will be the fourth of its type to be built in an area of brown coal deposits at Megalopolis, 250 km south-west of Athens.

With the world's power-station equipment suppliers competing hard for scarce orders in recent years, the consortium was anxious to clinch the Greek deal by putting together a package involving a boost to local industry and employment.

West German and Belgian companies in the consortium will work in partnership with local Greek companies. KWU, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Siemens electrical group of West Germany, will be technical leader of the consortium, but a Greek concern will act as the

China airline buys eight jets from Boeing

By Our Peking Correspondent

CHINA'S national airline, the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC), has bought eight jets from Boeing, a CAAC spokesman announced yesterday.

No purchase price was revealed for the five Boeing 737-200s, two 767s and one 747, but the order is believed to be worth more than \$320m (£268m).

Mr Dean V. Thornton, president and chief executive of Boeing Commercial Airplane Company, has arrived in Peking to meet Hu Yizhou, CAAC's director-general, the spokesman added.

The contract was signed in Peking at the weekend, and the delivery of the aircraft will begin in September and should be completed by the end of this year. Under the contract, Boeing will assist CAAC in training pilots and ground crews.

CAAC has already bought 37 Boeing aircraft, including six 747s and 18 737s.

Orders won by KWU in Greece, India and Egypt have been helping the company to sustain machine capacity. The new Greek power station is due to come on stream in the middle of next year.

Vickers disappointed over Australia submarine study

By LYNTON MCALPIN

VICKERS Shipbuilding said it was very disappointed not to have been chosen to do project definition studies for six submarines for the Australian Government.

Nevertheless, Vickers has not given up all hope of winning the contract.

"We are not going to give up. Our first Type 2400 submarine, HMS 'Upholder' for the Royal Navy, will be ready before the project definition studies have to be submitted by early 1988. We intend to show the submarine to Australia," Vickers said.

The eventual contract to build the six submarines would be worth A\$2.6bn (£1.4bn).

Australia decided this week to ask only two of the original seven bidders, from Sweden and from West Germany, to do the project definition studies.

Kockums of Sweden is to bid against Howaldtsdwerke, Deutsche Werft (HDW) of West Germany for the final contract to build the submarines.

"I will only regard the contract as lost when Australia has awarded the contract formally to another company," Mr Frank Noah, the commercial director of Vickers said.

"At the moment, we have lost the first stage and we hope

Australia does not close its eyes to our Type 2400 when we show it as proven submarine in service with the Royal Navy.

Vickers' pride had been "dented," Mr Noah said. "We have asked Australia to inform us, under the terms of the tender, why we did not go to the project definition stage."

Originally, the Australians wanted one submarine to be built in the UK and five to be built in Australia. They now want all six submarines to be built in Australia.

Vickers had sought the A\$26m project definition study contract and approximately 30 per cent of the total contract value of the building programme in Australia, representing the value of the UK content of the submarine.

The six submarines are all to be conventional diesel-electric-powered, Mr Kim Beazley, the Australian defence Minister, said. Kockums and HDW "offered the most advanced technology available in conventional submarines."

A consortium led by Rockwell International, of the U.S. and the Dutch company Hollandse Signaal Apparatuur were selected by Australia to develop a combat system for the non-nuclear submarines.

UK, Malaysia hit new snag in flight talks

By WONG SULONG IN KUALA LUMPUR

BRITAIN AND Malaysia have hit another snag in their protracted negotiations for a fifth weekly flight to their respective capitals.

British Airways (BA) and Malaysian Airline System representatives, meeting in Kuala Lumpur, yesterday failed to agree on the operational date for the fifth flight, with BA putting up what MAS officials described as "new" demands.

The talks were held to discuss operational details following last month's "agreement in principle" between the British and Malaysian Prime Ministers, that both airlines should be allowed a fifth weekly flight within a year or two.

MAS wants to start the additional flight from June next year, to catch the summer traffic, and wanted discussions on a future sixth and seventh flight.

BA representatives argued that an additional MAS flight to London before April 1987 would result in "economic disadvantage to BA" which needed

to be compensated.

BA therefore proposed to allow MAS to operate the extra flight starting in November 1986 on payment of a financial compensation, and that BA be given fifth flight freedom rights on the Kuala Lumpur-Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur-Abu Dhabi routes.

MAS officials described the BA demands as unreasonable because they said there was no mention of financial compensation in talks between the two Prime Ministers, while the fifth flight freedom issue should be discussed separately based on reality.

Previously, BA objected to a fifth MAS flight to London on grounds that the combined BA-MAS load factor had not reached the trigger point of 87 per cent.

AP reports from Washington: Eastern Airlines has received White House approval to fly between Miami and London, a route left vacant when Air Florida ceased operations last year, a Department of Transportation spokesman said.

Aramco denies Saudi pipeline corrosion

By FINN BARRE IN RIYADH

THE ARABIAN American Oil Company (Aramco) has denied reports that corrosion damage on the existing East-West pipeline prompted construction of a new parallel crude oil pipeline. It says a recently completed inspection shows the line "is still in fine condition."

Aramco awarded two contracts for the new pipeline, each of which was worth about \$80m (£56m), to Saipem of Italy and to a consortium of the Lebanese contractor Consolidated Contractors International Company (CCCI) and Mannesmann of Duesseldorf, West Germany.

Aramco is supervising the contract on behalf of the Saudi Government. The contract is expected to begin in June and finish in March 1987.

Ozal defends Bosphorus bridge decision

TURKEY'S Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, yesterday defended his Government's decision to give a consortium of Japanese, Italian and Turkish companies the \$450m (£316m) contract to build a second bridge across the Bosphorus, agency's report.

"The contract was rightly given to the lowest bidder," he said at the end of a four-day visit to Japan.

Mr Ozal said the choice was unrelated to the \$150m (£116m) loan pledge by Japan to help build the bridge between Asia and Europe.

"The values of the contracts—whether there was credit or not—were quite far from each other," Mr Ozal stressed.

However, there is a "grey zone" in the periphery of these proper fields, in which mutual interests are being made. The important point is to make sure such interests are fair. For example, banks can acquire funds at no interest or at low interest rates, and

Yuki: In general, the Tokyo stock market is now undergoing an adjustment due to three factors: The highest price levels in history have been successively achieved recently; difficult prospects for the U.S. economy; and Japan-U.S. trade friction. Current movements in stock prices, with a heavy domestic cash surplus in the background, reflect a rather speculative atmosphere. Corporations, financial organisations and other domestic investors have been at the fore, while European investors, a little perplexed, are inclined to hold off buying.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

David Lennon in Tel Aviv examines measures to rehabilitate the economy

Israel avoids bitter medicine

THE ISRAELI handling of the economic situation is akin to a team of doctors deciding to cure a cancer patient by pulling out one of his teeth. That is how Mr Ezer Weizman, an outspoken and colourful minister without portfolio, summed up the feelings of many experts about the latest economic measures announced by the Cabinet.

However, even an extraction can be painful, as Israelis hoping for a foreign holiday this summer have discovered. The decision to double the travel tax paid by everyone going abroad to \$300 will hurt. With other levies, the exit taxes now amount to as much as a return ticket to London.

After a marathon 12-hour meeting on Sunday devoted to seeking ways to rehabilitate the economy, the Cabinet decided to raise indirect taxes, freeze government contracts and hiring for three months and make foreign travel more expensive. The aim is to increase state revenue, cool the economy and save foreign currency.

The opinion of most Israeli economists, however, is that the positive impact of these measures will be marginal at best and that they will fuel inflation. They fail to tackle seriously the main problems of the economy: the almost \$5bn current account deficit in the balance of payments, the resurgence of hyper-inflation, and the continuing erosion of the foreign currency reserves.

Mr Yitzhak Modai, Finance Minister, admitted frankly to the Knesset (parliament) on Monday when explaining the Government's decision, that the measures adopted had been determined by political



and social, rather than economic considerations.

If the Government had been guided solely by economic wisdom, the previous Finance Minister, Mr Yigal Cohen-Orgad, would have adopted one of two courses: it would have linked the shekel to the dollar or a basket of foreign currencies; or it would have ended the linkage to the cost-of-living index of wages, capital and commercial commitments.

The Government had decided, however, that neither of these courses could be adopted for coalition and parliamentary reasons, and even more so on social grounds. Instead it had chosen the way of gradual progress, Mr Modai said, in his plea for understanding.

It is difficult for most Israelis to understand why the broad-based National Unity Government, which was formed eight months ago primarily to deal with the growing economic crisis, is incapable of producing

the extent of the problem was il-

lustrated on Monday when the Knesset finance committee, after months of delay, again refused to pass a law introducing high school fees and then broke up in disorder when it debated the proposal to impose property tax on car owners.

Mr Modai insists that the new steps are designed to complete the policy which began with the decision to cut the budget and curb inflation through a voluntary agreement with the unions and employers to control prices and wages.

The minister admits that the budget cuts of \$1.5bn are proving difficult to implement as each minister fights to protect his domain and Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, insists that unemployment will not be used as an economic tool.

The Government's attempt to curb inflation and stabilise the economy through the agreement with the unions and employers did work for a few months after being introduced in November. But it suffered a severe blow as inflation in April rose by nearly 20 per cent. The latest measures will exacerbate this trend.

The next landmark in the continuing saga of Israel's economic tightrope-walking will be the announcement from Washington that the \$750m-\$800m in emergency aid is "undiminished" and that instead of declining concessional aid should grow by 5 to 10 per cent a year.

Failure to take any measures to reduce India's protracted debt burden might well imply only one of the ministry's options while addressing the parliamentary committee, beyond recommending relatively uncontroversial ways of expanding demand through deregulation and public works development on state-owned land.

However, Mr Toyoo Goyhien, an influential Finance Ministry official, said in an interview that there was virtually no chance of the ministry abandoning its zero growth approach to spending either this year or next. This would place the onus for any stimulus squarely on the tax policy side.

Tokyo hints it may stimulate economy

By Jurek Martin in Tokyo

A SENIOR Japanese Government official again hinted yesterday at possible stimulation of the domestic economy if the slowdown in the U.S. worsened.

Reacting to Tuesday night's news that the U.S. gross national product in the first quarter of this year had risen at a real annual rate of only 0.7 per cent, Mr Noboru Takeshita, Finance Minister, told a parliamentary committee that if the hoped-for "soft landing" turned into a recession, Japan might be forced to act.

Mr Satoshi Sunita, Governor of the Bank of Japan, said it was clear the U.S. economy could not achieve the real 3.9 per cent growth predicted by the Reagan Administration. But, if the budget deficit could be attacked, the U.S. had not lost its potential for sustained growth and could achieve 3 per cent expansion this year.

Mr Takeshita did not go into detail on the Japanese economic policy options while addressing the parliamentary committee, beyond recommending relatively uncontroversial ways of expanding demand through deregulation and public works development on state-owned land.

However, Mr Toyoo Goyhien, an influential Finance Ministry official, said in an interview that there was virtually no chance of the ministry abandoning its zero growth approach to spending either this year or next. This would place the onus for any stimulus squarely on the tax policy side.

'India will need to quadruple bank borrowing'

By JOHN ELLIOTT IN NEW DELHI

INDIA'S commercial foreign borrowings now running at \$12bn a year may have to jump to an unexpectedly high figure of \$5.2bn a year by 1990 if the country is to meet its 5 per cent economic growth targets and absorb urgently needed imports.

This forecast is made by the World Bank in its annual report on India. The report also warns that the growth target may not be achieved unless the Government initiates "further vigorous thrusts" on proposed industrial and trade policy reforms to boost exports and improve industrial efficiency.

The World Bank controversially pleads India's case for more concessional aid, which has been hit partly by cuts in the World Bank's International Development Association soft loan arm and partly by China qualifying for such aid. It says India's needs are "undiminished" and that instead of declining concessional aid should grow by 5 to 10 per cent a year.

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60 killed in East Beirut car bomb

By Richard John in Beirut

A MASSIVE car bomb was detonated in Christian east Beirut yesterday killing at least 60 people and injuring more than 120. Among the dead were 15 school children who were in a bus near the site of the blast.

The bomb devastated buildings over a wide area and several motorists were burned alive in their vehicles. At least yesterday victims were still being dug from the rubble and the death toll was expected to rise.

It was the worst car bomb ever to hit East Beirut and the first since a suicide attack on a U.S. Embassy annex last north of the city last September killing 12 people.

Panic increased after yesterday's blast when several artillery shells at long range rocked the area.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which was carried out mainly by Moslem extremists of the capital also launched further bloodshed and political turmoil.

The fighting around the Palestinian camps in the south east of the Lebanese capital took a new twist with the Shi'ite militia Amal turning into direct confrontation with Syria.

Amal has for the past several days been fighting to wrest control of the camps from Palestinian forces apparently loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization. As Syria is deeply opposed to Mr Arafat's leadership of the PLO, it had tacitly approved the Amal action.

However, yesterday, Amal attempts to advance were thwarted when four Soviet-made Grads missiles hit the entrance to Chalifé camp. The missiles were apparently fired by forces of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine which is allied to Syria.

Bambers thus appears to have given notice that Amal has gone too far in its crackdown on the Palestinians. This view was given additional weight by the fact that pro-Syrian Palestinians have also been fighting within the camps to halt the Amal advance.

At least 60 casualties are believed to have been far higher than the 40 dead admitted yesterday. Hospital doctors said they had received at least 100 Amal dead.

Israel, PLO 'in talks over release of more prisoners'

By OUR MIDDLE EAST STAFF

A SENIOR official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation indicated yesterday that negotiations are taking place with Israel over the release of more Palestinian prisoners.

Mr Khalil al-Wazir, the principal military aide to Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, said in Amman that it was premature to give any details while some steps have still to be taken.

His comment followed a report in a Jordanian newspaper that talks were taking place over the release of 1,012 Palestinians in Israeli jails in return for a number of bodies of Israeli soldiers held by Fatah, the main guerrilla group headed by Mr Arafat.

The PFLP-GC warned in a statement from Damascus yesterday that it would retaliate if the Israeli authorities attempted to take any further action against the released prisoners.

Zaire seeks debt rescheduling

By PETER BLACKBURN IN ABIDJAN

ZAIRE IS due to seek another rescheduling of its official debt, the seventh in the past 10 years, at a meeting in Paris on May 23-24. It is likely to be followed by a meeting with the London Club of commercial creditors.

Debt service to both official and commercial creditors is estimated at \$900m (£670m) in 1985 against projected export earnings of \$1.7bn and a budget of \$800m.

Zaire is reported to be seeking to reschedule some two-thirds of debt payable this year amid signs that last year's remarkable economic improvement is now faltering.

The meetings follow the recent approval of a new one-year SDR 162m (£126m) IMF standby arrangement which supports the Government's austerity programme aimed at bringing the country's finances back into balance.

It aims further to reduce the external current account deficit, restrict public sector credit and

bring inflation below 20 per cent.

However, Mr Kaderaka Kasai, Zaire's Secretary of State for Planning, recently told an aid donors meeting in Kinshasa that economic indicators for the first quarter 1985 were "disturbing."

Output is down, inflation up to around 30 per cent from less than 20 per cent and the depreciation of the Zaire against the dollar and other major currencies has accelerated, he said. As a result the economic gains in 1984, notably the virtual disappearance of the black market and a sharp drop in the over 100 per cent inflation rate, have been eroded.

The reshuffle was reportedly triggered off by an overzealous Finance Minister, Mr Tshishimbi Wa Bilienga, freshly arrived from the IMF in Washington, who insisted that certain unexplained expenditures be accounted for. The Minister was subsequently shifted and now heads the Public Debt Office.

Criticism of the IMF-inspired

Eanes discusses Macao's future with Peking

By Robert Thomson in Peking

THE FUTURE of Macao, the small territory of southern China under Portuguese administration, was discussed in a meeting between Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Premier, and Dr Antonio Ramalho Eanes, the visiting Portuguese President.

During the two-hour meeting at the Great Hall of the People, Premier Zhao and the Portuguese President, who is the first head of state from Portugal to visit China, exchanged views on the Macao question in a friendly and understanding atmosphere, according to a Chinese Foreign Ministry official.

The official would not give details of what views were exchanged, but the fact that both countries are prepared to admit that discussion on the Macao issue took place is significant.

There has been speculation that President Eanes's visit could herald the start of an effort to settle the question of Macao now that the future of Hong Kong has been solved.

Macao was first settled by the Portuguese in the 16th century as a base for trade with China. Now Lisbon regards Macao as a Chinese territory under Portuguese administration.

Zimbabwe to end freeze on dividends remittance

By OUR HARARE CORRESPONDENT

ZIMBABWE's Minister of Finance, Dr Bernard Chidzero, has attempted to restore investor confidence by lifting a freeze on the remittance of dividends.

He said at a press conference on Tuesday that a review of the balance of payments situation and its medium-term outlook had made it possible to lift the suspensions, imposed in March last year. Companies would also be granted an across-the-board foreign currency allocation for imports of 30 per cent.

The freeze on dividends, branch profits and partnership profits was effected to prepare for what the Government believed they would be a massive food import bill, brought about by the third year of drought.

As it turned out, the Government imported 225,000 tonnes, less than a quarter of what it had originally thought would be necessary.

Repayments of the frozen dividends are only likely to be released at the end of next year, however. Dr Chidzero said that those suspended since March last year and those declared during the rest of this year would be released through a system of 4 per cent bonds, paid out annually for the next six years.

Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister, last month put the balance of payments deficit on current account for last year at \$61m after 1983's disastrous \$268m. The latest Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe review estimates that 1985 will even show a small surplus.

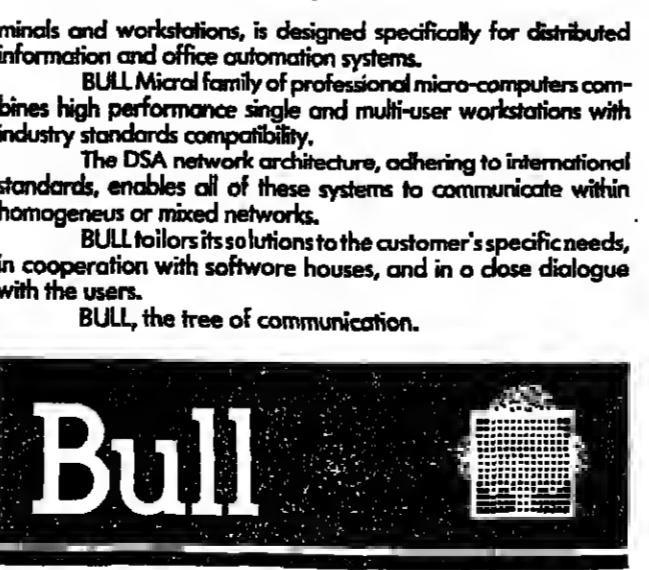
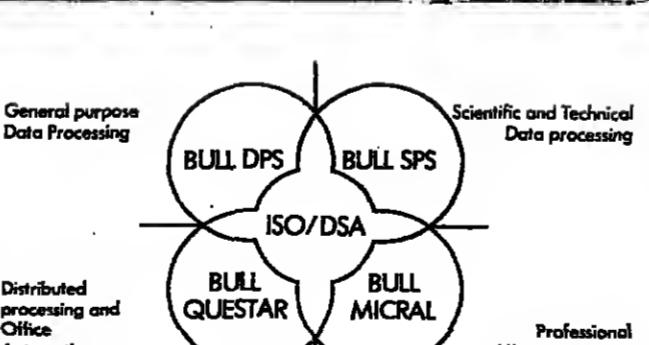
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The BULL Questar range of multi-purpose, ergonomic ter-



0 killed
1 East
Beirut
car bomb

Germany's schooling 'far more effective'

BRITAIN had little chance of matching Germany's economic performance as long as the comprehensive secondary schools were controlled by different local authorities, said an article in the *National Economic Review*.

It claimed that Germany, which largely retained selective schooling, catered far more effectively for children whose intelligences ran in other than academic directions.

The plans of Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, to improve the education of less scholarly pupils in the UK were hampered because the decentralised control of schools made it hard to achieve the necessary co-ordination.

The article said that the link between Germany's schools and its economic success lay in the effective way it educated children with lower academic aptitudes. They left school with much better developed abilities than their English counterparts, particularly in mathematics, which provided a foundation for training in working skills.

The main educational reason for Germany's economic lead over the UK was not differences in graduate populations, but in Germany's far greater number of vocationally-trained people.

Institute forecasts, Page 19

Further radical change promised by Thatcher

BY PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

MRS MARGARET THATCHER, Prime Minister, yesterday presented the Conservatives as the 'constructive party' committed to further proposals for radical change.

She gave a London conference of women party members a list of government social, economic and industrial initiatives which, she said, represented 'the most concentrated collection of constructive long-term policies that I have known in my 25 years in parliament. And there's more to come. And we still only

set the best presentation just at the moment when it is succeeding.'

'No one has a monopoly of caring about unemployment. If get very angry when I hear some people differentiate themselves from others - particularly in my own party - saying they care and others don't.'

Earlier in the conference, in reply to a debate on the presentation of

Government policy, Lord Whitelaw, the leader of the House of Lords, implicitly attacked the new group of Tory MPs, Conservative Centre joined, led by his former close colleague, Mr Francis Pym.

Without mentioning Mr Pym by name, Lord Whitelaw said that 'some divisions and cracks will open the best presentation just at the moment when it is succeeding.'

'The party's problems are underlined by an opinion poll in today's *Guardian* newspaper, which puts it at 29 per cent, behind Labour and the Alliance which are level pegging at 35 per cent. This represents a seven point gain for the Alliance over the past month with Labour slipping back by three points and the Tories by four.'

The two retail chiefs plan to inject into Debenhams some of the design and marketing flair that has made their respective companies so successful in the 1980s. They aim to adapt the marketing formula initially developed in Milan with the *Galleria* department stores - since copied in the U.S. - and introduce it into Debenhams' 87 UK stores.

The *Galleria* concept, according to Mr Halpern, is for an 'integrated collection of highly focused special-

David Churchill on the plans behind a £492m takeover bid

What's in store for Debenhams

TWO OF BRITAIN'S brightest retailing entrepreneurs - Sir Terence Conran of Habitat/Mothercare and Mr Ralph Halpern of the men's clothing chain Burton - yesterday joined forces to mount the long-awaited takeover bid for Debenhams department stores.

The move, which had been one of the worst-kept secrets in the City of London for some weeks, brings to an end almost 13 years of continual takeover speculation surrounding Debenhams since the UDS group failed in its takeover bid in 1972.

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Pharmaceuticals in seven Nations, Office of Health Economics, 12 Whitehall, London SW1A 2SY, £2.50.

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THE MANAGEMENT PAGE: Marketing and Advertising

EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER LORENZ

ONCE UPON a time, the talk in advertising industry circles was all about mass media. Audiences were measured primarily by size and were random at that. Nowadays, talk is as likely to be of ???? tactics—the business of fine targeting specific audiences.

The good old days are numbered. Then, advertisers and their agencies did their sums on a straightforward cost-per-thousand basis (that is, the ratio of the number of people, broadly termed "housewives," who saw, heard or read a given message in relation to the cost of that message).

Today, the buzzwords are fragmentation and selectivity, the implications of which are causing something of a revolution in advertising thinking.

The signs of fragmentation are all around—on every news-sheet and on many airwaves. On television, the numberless medium, Channel 4 and TVam have struck a blow for selectivity. Cable promises to do more. Major regional newspapers are heavily into zoning (some, like the Wolverhampton Express and Star, have as many as 10 zones) enabling advertisers, such as retailers and estate agents, to reach regions within regions. Specialist magazines are multiplying greedily in both free and paid-for sectors.

The free press has long recognised the merits of targeting and therein lies much of its strength. It targets its audience closely, be it by income level (London Portrait, which goes to houses in certain areas of London worth over £100,000), by interest (Home and Leisure Exchange Contracts is distributed through estate agents and solicitors to home-buyers) or by geographical location.

Jeff Fergus, managing director of Grandfield Rork Collins advertising agency, believes that "people genuinely recognise that one mass message is questionable now." He gives two reasons. Markets are more competitive, and one way of keeping an edge is finer targeting with less wastage.

All of which means a revision of the media function in advertising—that is, the planning and buying of space and time. "The proportion of an advertiser's time spent on media is rising continually," says John Billelt of media independent Billelt & Company.

For all the escalation of media opportunities and growth of specialist titles and channels, fuelled by advertising revenue growth, the consumer is apparently not spending more time consuming, explains Billelt. In fact, the size of individual media is declining, though consumer magazines,



"I don't think that's quite what the client meant by targeting"

No longer is it the more the merrier

Advertisers now prefer selected audiences. Fiona McEwan reports

for example, have mushroomed in the past 20 years, he says, their individual circulations have diminished. What this means is that in the next few years, with forecasts predicting fixed costs and static ad revenues, "a not insignificant number of media of all sorts will close unless they put to one side economic considerations as Fleet Street has traditionally done."

For the press, selectivity has always been its strong suit. This is something, says Fergus, on which it should now be capitalising. It offers flexibility and chances to experiment in a way TV cannot—its costs are so high that an advertiser must be very sure of getting it right before embarking.

In the magazine sector, new launches show specialisation working in a number of ways—by age (Just 17, Mizz, Smash Hits), by interest (A La Carte for foodies, Country Living for country livers, Instore for furniture buffs). "The editorial fish eye lens doesn't work any more," says David Shields, marketing manager of National Magazines. "It is relatively unlikely that we'll see any more mass appeal women's magazines in the Women's Realm, Women's Own mould. The concept of appealing to all women

is a thing of the past. Editorial hooks have to be sharper, aimed at a particular kind of woman or man. Sharp advertisers showed how—with ads in Working Woman for building societies and British Telecom, tailored specifically for working women.

The Regional Newspaper Advertising Bureau, which represents 80 per cent of the regional press boasts a computerised database to help advertisers define markets more precisely. "The trend for zoning," says Alan Garth of the RNAB, "began when the regional press found they were pricing out the small local advertiser who did not want to reach the whole region." Now the Fins, Fars, B & Os, Texas stores, Tesco's and C & As have started buying area by area, fine tuning their messages to local store prices and offers.

The Bureau defined audiences demographically, as it did for Global Holidays, which caters for the over-55-year olds. It identified regions where there was a denser population in this age group and then matched them with the papers which served them.

Television and mass appeal are inseparable. The medium has built its stature and its brands on what it does, and will

continue to do very well in terms of delivering mass audiences for advertisers.

But television too can be targeted. True, this is the selling platform of Channel Four with its minority occasional audiences and TVam with its young mums' profile, "but," says John Billelt, "selectivity is now possible in TV"—the catch is that you must be prepared to do the analysis yourself, since available BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board) data does not apparently define audiences selectively enough yet.

You can waste a bell of a lot of money if you do not buy selectively, and some things that seem affordable may be affordable as a result," he says. He cites his experience with Andrew MacLaren, the bouncy buggy brand leader. A non-TV advertiser, MacLaren might have remained so if it had relied on available data from BARB, whose monitoring of the target audience (ABC1C2) housewives with children) was "hopelessly inadequate." On the face of it, TV seemed a poor bet. Billelt conducted more detailed research to identify the target group's selected viewing. It found that in one peaktime slot (which BARB showed had an 18 per cent rating among

housewives with children) Billelt found the real target audience (ie ABC1C2 housewives with children) was as much as 27 per cent.

This persuaded MacLaren to try TV. Results showed that sales per exceeded target.

The biggest change on the media scene according to Billelt is the arrival of the multi-set home. "Television was the ultimate family pastime. Now it's an individual medium. Video and cable will make it more so." In the early TV days, when Wagon Train and Coronation Street were netting audiences of 70 per cent, (though there were fewer sets then) selectivity seemed unnecessary.

Fewer channels, high ratings and TV contractors fighting for share, have all helped produce the commodity market of television today. Increased selectivity together with falling revenues is said to be causing havoc with the contractors, used as they are to a pre-empt card system of buying prices.

"Now," says Billelt, "the gap between highest and cheapest prices for a slot has increased, so the chance of buying selectively and cheaply has increased."

Billelt gives another example: the News at 10 and T. J. Hooker both showed similar rating of 25 per cent of viewers at peak time (1984 figures). Yet when broken down further into ABC1 housewives it transpired that the News netted 23 per cent and Hooker only 16 per cent.

Again for advertisers wishing to reach large families of say ABC1 housewives with children (such as manufacturers of white goods, or certain foods) the News at 10's performance against The Professionals was revealing. In size, both showed the same rating (15) but in profile they were quite different. In terms of ABC1 housewives with children, the News netted 10 per cent and the Professionals 17 per cent. "Thus," says Billelt, "for the same audience size an advertiser would be getting 70 per cent more of his real target audience for his money. It used to be said you had to pay for selectivity."

Such as Grundig's Jewel in the Crown with its upmarket audience at premium prices. This week, the Association of Media Independents has put forward proposals for a new form of media research to reflect more accurately the increased selectivity of viewing habits. The industry must change its emphasis, says Billelt. "At the moment, it is geared up by medium. It must increasingly look at minority audiences and the reach across the media, both at an audience's viewing and reading."

Selling to Japan

Now the official version

BY CARLA RAPORT

approaching Japan. In some areas, such as banking, government regulations have to change. In others, such as telecommunications, attitudes must change.

In the meantime, however, Miti's new handbook describes a number of successful companies in Japan and underlines what they did right. It also explains the Japanese attitude towards business and the Japanese consumer's attitude towards buying. In the course of doing both things, it underscores the pitifully small dent on the Japanese market which foreign firms have made so far and goes some way toward putting some of the blame for this on the foreign companies themselves.

They sell them door-to-door. Nissan employs 20,000 young salesmen across the country to fit its cars. Toyota, Japan's largest car maker has nearly 30,000 foot soldiers. With this army to contend with, how could Chrysler ever hope to compete?

To date, answers to these kinds of question have been offered by expensive business consultants, a plethora of books written by foreigners about Japan, or just the simple school of hard knocks. With the exception of a minor Government agency specialising in external trade, the Japanese themselves have been conspicuously unrepresented in the literature of the bows and why's of selling in Japan.

This month, however, one of the best known bodies in Japan, Miti, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, issued a small, bilingual book entitled "Selling to Japan From A to Z." It is worth the 800 yen (about £2.80) investment.

Miti, as most Europeans know, was the agency responsible for devising the industrial strategy which turned Japan's industry into the powerhouse that it is today. Its power has diminished somewhat in recent years, if only because Japanese business these days needs little government help to continue to prosper. But it has now adopted a highly international profile and it is an unquestionable sign of the times that it is Miti which is now seeking to guide foreigners into Japan. If these were the best examples, Miti could come up with one has to believe that the trading companies accounting for a stunning 26 per cent of Japan's GNP are not terribly interested in promoting foreign goods. The section on joint-ventures such as Schick of the U.S. and Seiko, is more convincing.

And nowhere in the book does Miti deal with profit margins. The bottom-line, according to Miti, is that a long-term investment in Japan will pay off—in the long-term.

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THE BANKER

1985 TOP 500

Publication Date: 1st July 1985

The eighteenth edition of THE BANKER, the annual ranking of the world's largest banking groups, is now available. The data is based on 1984 figures and is the most authoritative comparative data published.

THE BANKER is the only publication to add new data to the information base, which is compiled with the previous 18 year historic performance research. It is the only publication to offer a bank-by-bank comparison for the whole year.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINS

1 Site by assets
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5 Net interest on assets (%)
6 Number of branches

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN 1985: This year THE BANKER will be adding:

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7 May 23 1988
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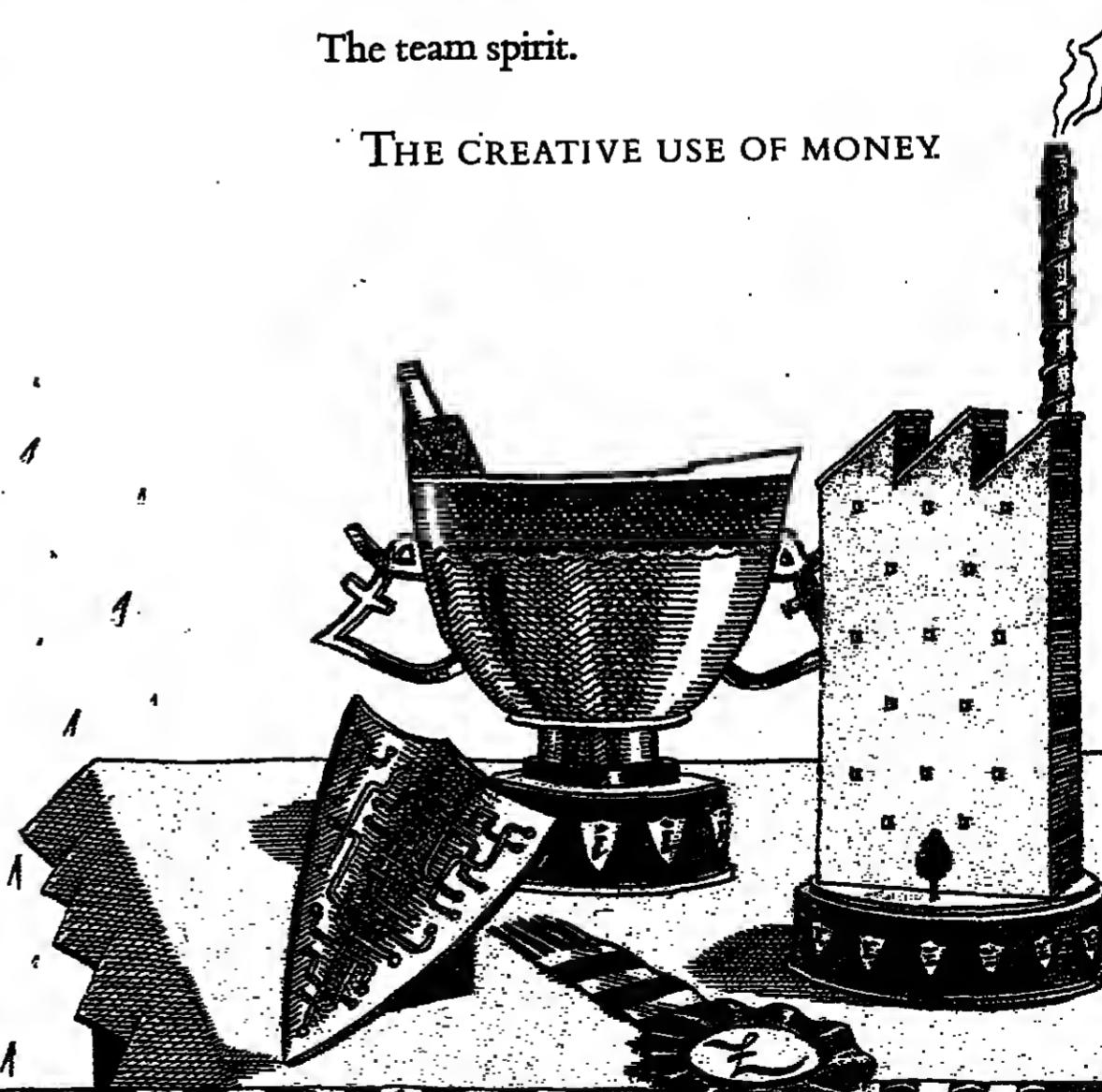
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It includes traditional and new industries, services like health care and activities which are not usually seen as part of employment policy, like housework. It lays the foundation for tackling London's ever increasing economic problems.

The GLC is holding a conference on Tuesday 4 June to launch the London Industrial Strategy. You are invited to participate to hear about the work so far, to discuss its relevance to your workplace and community and to make use of the Strategy in the fight for jobs.

Speakers will include Neil Kinnock MP, Brenda Dean, John Prescott MP, Tony Benn MP, Ken Livingstone and Michael Ward.

Tuesday 4 June 1985

The London Industrial Strategy Conference

9.30 am - 5.30 pm, The Conference Hall, County Hall, London SE1 7PB

Creche facilities will be provided by the GLC Mobile Creche.

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UK NEWS

City tower by Mies rejected as 'obtrusive'

By Joan Gray, Construction Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT has rejected a controversial proposal to build an 18-storey office block next to the Mansion House in the City of London, but it has left the way open for demolition and redevelopment on the site.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has refused property developer Mr Peter Palumbo planning permission to demolish the listed Victorian buildings and build the last glass tower designed by the leading modernist architect Mies van der Rohe, who died in 1969.

The proposal has been the subject of a lengthy planning inquiry and bitter debate between conservationists anxious to stop any more demolition to build offices in the City and developers pressing for more office space. Far from settling the issue, however, yesterday's decision will fuel the argument further. Mr Palumbo is determined to keep fighting.

"Mr Jenkin's verdict just creates confusion after 27 years of inconclusive debate over the site," said Mr Palumbo. "The country needs jobs and the City of London requires a proper business environment to resist competition from financial centres such as New York and Tokyo. It cannot compete in the 21st century out of 19th century premises."

Although Mr Jenkin rejected the proposal on the grounds that the Mies tower would be "obtrusive" and eliminate the strong sense of the central focus served by its radiating roads, signifying the very heart of the City, he emphasised that he did "not rule out redevelopment of this site if there were acceptable proposals for replacing the existing buildings."

In a paragraph diverging from the opinions of his planning inspector, Mr Jenkin supports the developers view on the need for modern offices in the City. "For the City to continue to function efficiently as a world financial centre it needs to adapt to the requirements of the modern commercial world... it would be wrong to attempt to freeze the character of the City of London for all time," he says.

Mr Palumbo declined to say what his next move will be.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FORECASTS OVERRUN IN PUBLIC BORROWING

Small scope seen for tax cuts

By MAX WILKINSON, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE GOVERNMENT is likely to have little scope for tax cuts in the next budget and faces a further overrun in public borrowing this year, the National Institute of Economic and Social Review says in its latest economic review published yesterday.

It says that the £34bn which the Treasury has pencilled in for tax cuts in 1986-87 will be swallowed up by increased borrowing demands.

The Government has assumed a public sector borrowing requirement of £74bn for that year, but the institute says borrowing would be more likely to be £104bn to £11bn if the Government went ahead with the tax cuts.

The institute is also pessimistic about the trend of public borrowing this year, which it says is likely to be £12bn to £12bn over the £74bn target.

The institute comments that in the current year the difference between its forecast and the Treasury's is within the very substantial margin of error for such forecasts. Nevertheless, the institute does seem to cast worrying doubts about the Government's ability to hit its borrowing targets.

It comments that if an overshoot in public borrowing resulted from a fall in government oil revenues, the effect on domestic money supply would not be particularly expansionary.

The main reasons for the institute's pessimism for the next financial year are that it expects the rate of economic growth to fall sharply in 1986, with unemployment continuing to rise.

Lower growth and a much smaller increase in company profits would reduce the Government's tax revenues, while higher unemployment — projected to reach 3.26m adults by the end of next year — would increase the cost of social security benefits.

The institute expects some weakening of the oil price as a result of a projected fall in the exchange rate of the dollar. But it does not think sterling will benefit as much as the D-Mark and the Japanese yen.

One consequence of this is expected to fall, thus reducing the Government's revenues from the North Sea.

For this year, the institute predicts an economic growth of 3.2 per cent compared with real output in 1984. Of this about one percentage point represents the recovery of oil prices after the end of the miners' strike.

In 1986, output is projected to be 1.6 per cent higher than this year's level but the institute says: "These annual figures mask the extent of the slowdown; through next year, output rises only fractionally."

The main reason for the slowing of economic growth in 1986 is the expectation that exports and investment will slow down substantially. A rebuilding of stocks is expected to provide a significant boost to the economy this year but this will go into reverse in the latter part of 1986 as stocks are rebuilt at a slower rate.

Exports are expected to decline in response to a general slowing in the pace of world trade. Investment, the institute says, is likely to grow less fast as the economy slows down. But the measures of the 1984 budget, which phased down investment allowances, are also likely to contribute to a slowing down in this period.

Consumer spending, underpinned by a steady growth of average earnings, is expected to provide the main impulse for growth in the latter part of next year. The institute believes that average wage settlements in the round ending this summer will be about 6% per cent, with average earnings rising at about 7% per cent, similar to the rise in the two previous wage rounds. It says that it expects this broad trend to continue.

Later this year, the effects of the recent rise in sterling will begin to feed through into retail prices. It says, counteracting the fall end of the price increases which followed from its earlier depreciation.

The institute says that living standards, at least for those in work, are set to improve steadily up to the end of next year.

It says that public sector pay settlements just kept pace with inflation at average since 1981-82, but had fallen 7 per cent behind the average pay rises for the whole economy.

The worst-off groups in the public sector were the health service and library workers and the local authority manual workers. Civil servants pay fell 4 per cent in real terms during the year. The police did best with a 16 per cent real pay increase over the four years. The armed forces received a real rise of 6 per cent and teachers a real rise of 1 per cent.

The institute expects the Western European economy to continue slow expansion at about 2 to 2.5 per cent a year for the next two years, while the pace of growth in the U.S. and Japan will slow.

Wage inflation, it says, remains moderate in the developed countries, with the average rate of increase of consumer prices at 4% per cent this year compared with 5% per cent in 1984. But as the inflation rate picks up in the U.S. to about 5 per cent in 1986, world inflation will also move up to just under 5 per cent.

The growth of world trade is expected to slow from 8 per cent last year to about 5 per cent in 1985 and 4% per cent in 1986. This slow down will be heavily concentrated on the U.S., the institute says.

Economic Review No. 112, May 1985, from National Institute of Economic and Social Research, 2 Deaf Trench Street, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HE. Annual subscription £40 (abroad). Single issue £12 (abroad).

New issue
May 23, 1985

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Speakers include: Mr Bo Rydin, Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget SCA; Mr Eric N. Kinnock MP, Paper, Printers, Weavers, Wollmen, Scheriffs and Textile Workers' Association; Mr Einar S. Lorentzen, Bureau Celulosa SA; Mr John M. Chapelle, Darby BA and Mr F. J. de Wit, Kenmarebaas Paperfabrieken NV.

The two-day meeting will be chaired by Dr Ingram Lenton from Bowater Industries and Mr John Worlding, The Wiggins Teape Group Limited.

All enquiries should be addressed to:

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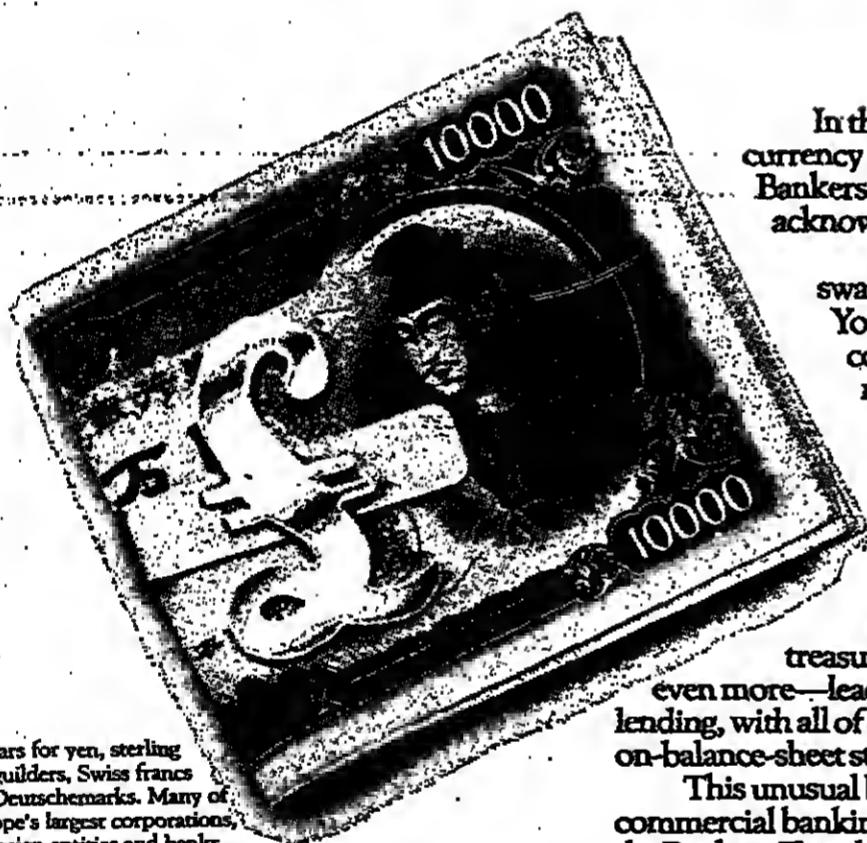
The contributors will include: Viscount Eustace Davison; Mr Kenneth J. Gurnett, IBM World Trade Europe/Middle East/Africa Corporation; Mr Gert Jellef, NV Philips Electronics; Mr Robert Castle, A. T. & T. Information Systems; Dr Henry Ezra, GICCO; Mr. Minister of State for Industry and International Trade; Dr Stephen D. Bryson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Economic Affairs, U.S. Department of Defense; Dr Bryson, will speak on Technology Transfer — The U.S. Policy.

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TECHNOLOGY

Japan sets pace in automating intelligence

Alan Cane reports on Tokyo's Fifth Generation computer programme

JAPANESE plans to develop intelligent "Fifth Generation" computers are showing the first tangible signs of success—and they have seven years in hand.

The Japanese programme calls for a prototype fifth generation computer by 1992. Last year, however, they announced a personal "inference engine," a workstation capable of making 30,000 logical inferences per second (LIPS).

In Tokyo last week, Nippon Electric and the Japanese Fifth Generation Centre, ICOT, showed a complementary machine, a computer capable of making 200,000 LIPS.

Logical inferences are the building blocks of artificial intelligence; what the Japanese are trying to do is to create a system which can handle inference as the basic unit of operation, as distinct from the basic arithmetic operation of conventional computers.

The NEC/ICOT workstation and computer can be combined together as a tool for research and development in computer software. The Japanese are already marketing the workstation commercially as a high-performance personal computer complete with interfaces to allow speech, Japanese text input and high-precision graphic display.

Late last year, ICOT demonstrated the range of capabilities of this workstation. It was able to work out the smallest number of moves to solve an 8x8 Chinese chess problem in 362,830 separate configurations, and more spectacularly, hooked up to a Yamaha keyboard, it was able to create four-part harmony to a given melody.

According to Mr Alex Stewart of Baring Far East Securities, who has been investigating progress in Fifth Generation computing in Japan and elsewhere, the workstation makes it possible to speed up the pace at which new computer languages for artificial intelligence can be developed.

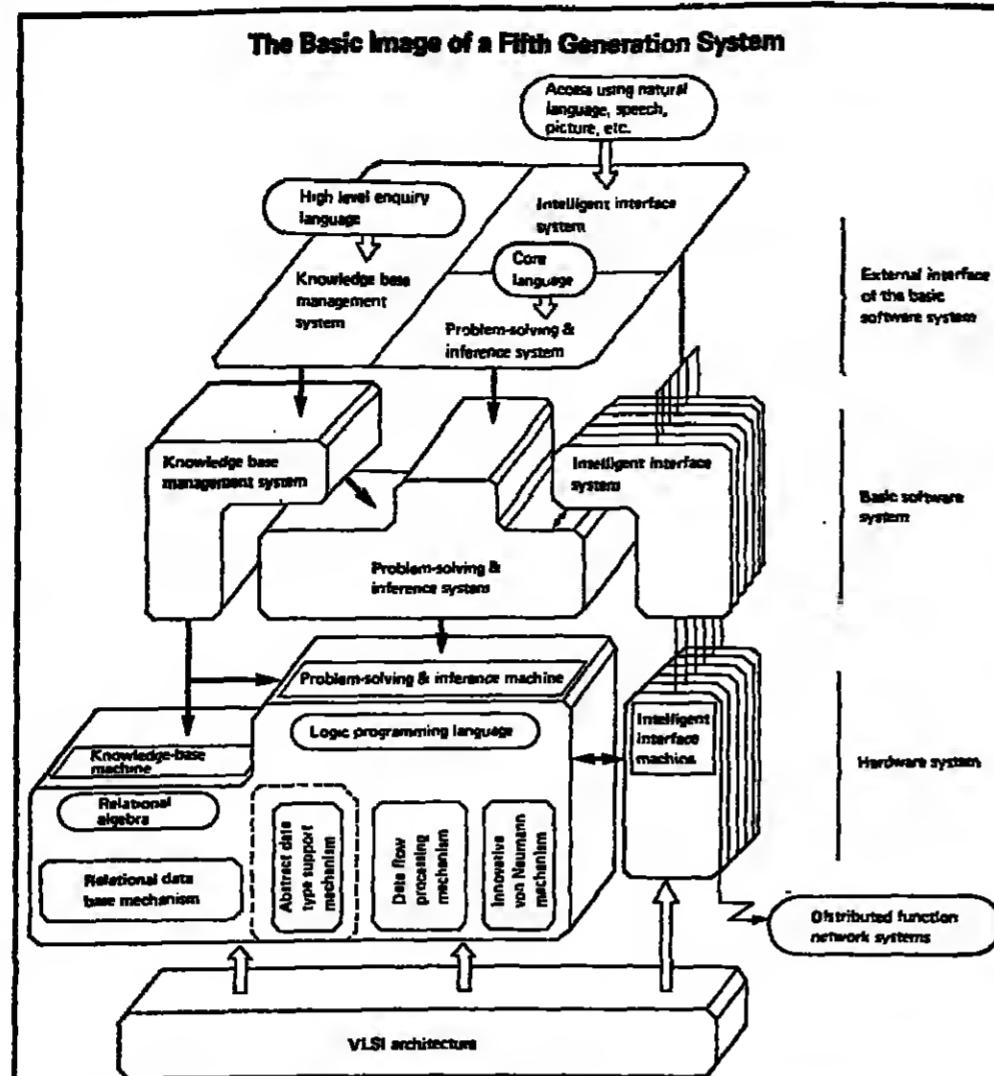
"The workstation itself is less important than the software which runs on it. The software which controls the basic hardware is written in a machine (low level) language called KLO."

"The rest of the system, such as the operating software is written in a higher level language for ease of programming called ESP. This system is designed to handle object-orientated features as well as logic programming, meaning that it can incorporate "icons" and "windows" for easier man-machine interfacing." (Icons are small pictures on the video screen indicating tasks to be accomplished; windows enable the screen to be split into different working areas. Both are features of the most advanced easy-to-use computers like the Apple Macintosh.)

Mr Stewart's report, Automating Intelligence, makes clear, the extent to which the Japanese thought through their strategy before embarking on the Fifth Generation programme.

In contrast to West where the response was primarily defensive, Mr Stewart says: "It is a sign of Japan's ever-increasing influence that the West should only mobilise to meet the threat posed by the Japanese initiative.

The Basic Image of a Fifth Generation System



than its own vision of the future.

"The Japanese had the advantage that their project formed part of a wider context, to prepare themselves for the 21st century. The British, like other Western nations, not having done such an exercise simply had to adapt their advanced computer programmes to fit existing industrial policies instead of trying to build them from the ground up."

The UK already had a strong base in artificial intelligence with a powerful commitment to logic programming, advanced parallel computing architectures and good pattern recognition technology. It also had the "Transputer," the Inmos high speed parallel processing element together with its programming language "Occam."

This could have been the building block of a Fifth Generation programme which would have stolen a march on the Japanese, Mr Stewart claims.

Instead, the advantage was thrown away. "The Japanese with fewer of the key technologies to hand, created the operating framework for the next generation of computers while the UK Government sold its majority holding in Immos to the private sector without either monetary profit or gain to the wider industrial constituency which it represents."

A Japanese triumph cannot be taken for granted however. Although they have developed a machine capable of 200,000 LIPS, a machine capable of some 100m-1,000m LIPS is the goal, realised by coupling together 1,000 or more parallel processing units.

In 1992, Mr Stewart predicts, the West will find many disappointments in ICOT's computer portfolio. "It will not be the all-thinking machine some hopefuls might imagine. It will be constrained from the start by a lack of well-fitting software. The architecture may still have a rather elegant design."

Nevertheless, he thinks that Fifth Generation machine will be a symbolic step forward comparable to the commercialisation of the computers in the early 1950s. "The difference will be that the market for Fifth Generation machines will take off much faster because the software which runs on them will be aimed at a mass market."

Automating Intelligence, free to Baring Far East Securities clients, £275 to others.

EDITED BY ALAN CANE

Made to measure with a diamond

BY PETER MARSH

TWO SCIENTISTS working in exotic areas of physics have come up with a machine that may aid the development of new generations of materials and electronic circuitry for the aerospace and computer industries among others.

The machine, called the Nanoindenter, measures physical properties of materials a tiny distance below their surfaces—as little as 20 billionths of a metre (20 nanometres).

The £100,000 device is sold by Nano Instruments Inc, a company in Knoxville, Tennessee, that Dr John Pethica of Cambridge University's Cavendish Laboratory and Dr Warren Oliver of the U.S. Government's Oak Ridge National Laboratory set up a year ago.

Dr Pethica is a surface physicist who works in abstract areas such as the "tunnelling" of electrons between different energy states in atoms, while Dr Oliver is a researcher in materials. The two scientists met in Switzerland where they were working for Brown Boveri, the electrical-engineering company.

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Nevertheless, he thinks that Fifth Generation machine will be a symbolic step forward comparable to the commercialisation of the computers in the early 1950s. "The difference will be that the market for Fifth Generation machines will take off much faster because the software which runs on them will be aimed at a mass market."

Automating Intelligence, free to Baring Far East Securities clients, £275 to others.

Due to the tiny distances that the instrument can measure, the machine can probe just below the surface of materials to detect, for example, the position where physical properties change as a result of "buried" dopant atoms in semiconductors.

These dopants, such as phosphorus or arsenic, change the electronic characteristics of silicon and are used to make different types of circuits. In research laboratories, it is important to measure exactly where the atoms reside to determine their effect on the silicon's electrical behavior.

Implantation of atoms in this manner is employed in the aerospace industry to make components such as engine parts more resistant to wear.

In other applications, with the Nanoindenter engineers can examine the structure of alloys or new types of ceramic materials, for instance, to analyse how physical properties change at junction points between different atoms in the material.

The Nanoindenter is related to technological terms, to Brinell hardness—measuring machines, which were invented at the beginning of this century by A. J. Brinell, Swedish engineer. In Brinell machines, a ball bearing thuds into a material such as a steel plate with a known force. Measuring the size of the dent indicates the strength of the substance.

In the Nanoindenter, 1980-style electronics and engineering know-how permit very small distances to be monitored. The machine's diamond tip is linked to a coil that moves as a result of electrical interaction with a magnet. The force with which the diamond becomes embedded in the material can be computed from the electrical energy that is put into the coil.

The movement of the diamond into the material is monitored by attaching to the tip a metal component that forms one plate of a capacitor. Analysis of how the capacitance changes gives a reading for distance.

The diamond-stylus arrangement and the electronics for analysing force and movement are made for Nano Instruments by W. A. Technology, a small company of precision engineers in Cambridge set up three years ago by Mr Barry Ambrose and Dr Colin Wilson, former colleagues of Dr Pethica at the Cavendish Laboratory.

D A L E

GENERATING SETS

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computers

JAPANESE microcomputer manufacturers are already developing new machines based on a modification of the MSX specification devised by Microsoft of the U.S. to set the standard for home computers.

The new specification, MSX2, has been developed by the Japanese company ARI, a Microsoft affiliate, according to Japanese Industry News letter, an English language review of Japanese consumer technology.

The new machines will have better communication capabilities, making them suitable for use as a terminal for videotex services and other electronic services. MSX2 may therefore create a new demand from home and office.

Sony, Matsushita, Toshiba and others will market the new machines in the autumn, with prices of between \$395 and \$785.

Actionwriter

AN ELECTRONIC typewriter which can also function as a letter-quality printer for personal computers has been launched by IBM at \$345.

IBM says the Actionwriter 1 is its lowest priced electronic typewriter.

It says it plans, subject to FCC Certification, to make available a printer option allowing the new typewriter to be attached to selected IBM Personal Computers.

The computer giant is to discontinue marketing the IBM personal typewriter and the Selectric III Model 6701.

Stop thief

MICROCOMPUTERS which "walk" with a little help from the light-fingered can be secured in a console from XL Products of Manchester called the Microguard. Processor, disc drives and monitor can be locked in place and the console itself locked to a secure point. It costs £50 plus VAT. More details on 061 372 6310.

You Can't Knock It
Unless a standard hard disk subsystem the BORSU 10+ drives are virtually indestructible. Visitors to the BORSU stand at a recent trade show were amazed to see disk cartridges hurled to the floor and the drive itself thumped, bumped and even turned upside-down during a read/write operation! In terms of the maintenance of data integrity these acts of apparent vandalism went totally unnoticed by disks and drives alike.

Safety First is the Key
With storage density of 24,000 bits per inch the BORSU 10+ drives need a fairly extensive error correction scheme, and the designers have responded to this need—with a vengeance. Although each of the 306 sectors actually contain 70 sectors, only 64 are released to the user. Of the remaining 6 sectors one provides a 4096 bit parity check for the rest of the track. The other five sectors act as substitutes should any of the regular sectors become unusable.

There are also 4 tracks on each disk which can be brought into use if an entire track should prove defective. Now that's what I call data protection!

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing
If you're thinking on mass storage systems is in a rut, prepare to change your views. Traditionally, you buy a hard disk system with 5, 10, 20 megabytes of storage, as the case may be, and what you see is what you get. Now BORSU have changed all that.

Buy a BORSU 10+ dual disk subsystem and you start at 20 megabytes (10 Mb per drive). For just

ADVERTISEMENT

£75, however, an extra removable cartridge will add a further 10 Mb capacity, ad infinitum.

The Disk that Cleans Itself

The revolutionary BORSU 10+ "flying disk" drive has overcome one of the biggest threats to the safe storage of computer data—the stray speck of dirt.

Firstly, the read/write head is above the surface of the disk—which means that dirt will normally fall off the head area before it can do any damage. But that's only half the story.

In the BORSU 10+ system a major feature is

the constant airflow between the disk and a rigid metal plate above it. This constant draught, flung out from the region of the drive shaft, actually cleanses the entire work area with every revolution, a sort of vacuum cleaner in reverse. And this isn't just a clever idea—it works!

Running Rings Round Tape

Whilst several companies are putting their trust in high-speed, multi-band tapes as the best back-up to a hard disk BORSU knows different.

With its vested interest in conventional serial computer architectures where instructions are handled one at a time in linear sequence, IBM at first dismissed the Japanese

After several years of exhaustive R&D the new BORSU 10+ drives look set to knock both tapes, and possibly even hard disks, clear out of the ring. After all, what's the point of tying yourself to single hard disk units when you can get the same kind of storage density (10 megabytes per drive), faster operations (under 5 seconds spin-up time, 35 msec access time), and all the disk space you could ever need on easily exchangeable cartridges—with none of the limitations of a tape?

Gifted in medical and pharmaceutical research

In Montpellier, the public and private sector share the learning process, comparing results and exchanging know-how to mutual advantage. Major companies like SANOFI, BRISTOL-MYERS and ELSINT have benefited from the region's concerted research activities.

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In the year 2000 it is estimated that four out of five people in the world will go hungry: reason enough for Montpellier to have become the world's leading research centre in tropical agronomy and a source of hope for Africa and the Third World countries.

Gifted in research in electronics and advanced technology

Montpellier has scored high in this sector by attracting the international "giant" IBM, and more recently INTERTECHNIQUE. This has led to the development of a vast network of subcontractors and a highly effective infrastructure to support the numerous national research centres.

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Montpellier-France

Corporate Dealers

Major US Bank £20-30,000

Our client has a leading presence in the London financial markets, and is keen to further expand its corporate dealing activities. Consequently they seek to recruit several high calibre individuals with a proven track record in dealing with major multinational companies.

Candidates, aged 25-30, will be graduates currently working for an international bank with good knowledge of FX, money markets and securities, or futures and options.

Interested applicants should contact Jonathan Williams or Andrew Stewart on 01-404 5751 or write to the Banking and Finance Division, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BZ, quoting ref. 3499.



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HEAD OF CONTROL DEPARTMENT

This is an excellent opportunity for career development for an ambitious 25-35 year old.

Reporting directly to the General Manager, the incumbent will — in addition to managing the controlling and reporting tasks — be expected to contribute to the further progress of the bank by evaluating and analysing existing and evolving products and services.

Candidates should be recently qualified accountants with experience in bank audit or alternatively candidates who have gained the relevant experience in a similar function will be considered.

Salary £15,000-20,000 negotiable depending upon experience with usual bank fringe benefits.

Please write to our advisers:

H.R.V. Wessel, Consultant

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Major Pension Fund

Our Client, a major multinational company, currently seeks two Fund Managers to join their Pensions Department. Based in pleasant offices in Central London, our Client's Pension Fund Investment Department looks after funds to a value of £1.5bn, all internally managed. There is a considerable UK equity and fixed interest predominance in the make-up of their portfolio and it is in this area that they seek further support. The employing company itself enjoys a unique and enviable record for innovative man-management together with an exceptional level of employee relations.

UK Fund Manager

This is the more senior of the two appointments and reports to the Investment Controller. The person appointed, who is likely to be in the age range 28/37, will be responsible for managing directly part of the UK portfolio as well as coordinating the efforts of the team responsible for the remainder of the UK investments. At the same time, he/she will 'have' a considerable contribution to make to overall policy, particularly as far as the UK itself is concerned.

Fixed Interest Fund Manager

This appointment calls for a 23/27 year old Graduate who has already gained at least eighteen months' experience of investment with an institution, stockbroker or independent pension fund. The job holder will report to the UK Fund Manager.

Both jobs will appeal to people who want real responsibility in terms of investment management, economic input etc.

Salaries will be in line with experience. A car will be offered with the more senior appointment. Relocation expenses will be paid where necessary.

Please write in the first instance, quoting ref 646 and enclosing full career details, to Keith Fisher at Overton Shirley and Barry, Prince Rupert House, 64 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AD. Tel: 01-248 0355.

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Managers' guide to the perks pecking order

BY MICHAEL DIXON

WHAT PRIVATE USE OF A COMPANY CAR IS WORTH			
Approximate retail price of car	Estimated annual value of car use to employee when petrol is paid	Estimated annual value of car use to employee when petrol is paid to 8,000 m.p.a.	All petrol and other costs are paid
Up to £4,500	2,450	3,300	3,750
£4,501-£7,500	2,720	3,450	4,100
£7,501-£11,500	3,000	4,450	4,900
£11,501-£14,000	3,450	5,700	6,420
£14,001-£19,000	4,600	6,250	7,200
More than £19,000	5,250	9,300	11,300

HOW FREQUENTLY EXECUTIVES' CARS ARE REPLACED

Time same vehicle is retained	Chief executives	Other directors	Other top managers
One year or less	7	7	6
Two years	10	11	7
Three years	25	44	51
Four years	25	29	29
Five years	2	2	2
More than five years	12	6	0
Period varies	5	5	5

provision of wheels and petrol. Compared with last year, the proportion of directors with a car or some other or additional fringe benefit, and is based on information from 145 companies of various shapes and sizes. There is room here for only a few extracts. Readers wanting the full results should contact Sheila Smith, PA Personnel's pay research manager at 603 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE; telephone 01-235 6060.

We start with the company car which, apart from pensions, is evidently the most widespread fringe benefit. The survey finds that high tax on company cars and the private use thereof have not curtailed the

this particular kind of blandishment are notoriously difficult to make accurately. Indeed when I published a similar table last year, one or two parties not unconnected with the motor industry protested that such valuations are so prone to error that it is irresponsible of me to print any figures at all. But provided that the tenuousness of the estimates is appreciated, I can see no reason to suppress the highly respected PA organisation's data.

The top half of the table is pretty straightforward. On the left appear various retail-price ranges. Next we

have the estimated private worth of cars in each of the price ranges when the employer pays for no petrol for non-business mileage, although providing the vehicle and meeting other running costs. Next again comes the valuation when the company also funds petrol for up to 8,000 miles private annually, including travel between home and work. The last column refers to the lucky minority whose employer meets all the car's costs.

The bottom half of the table isn't all that complicated either. It shows the percentages respectively of car-supplied company chiefs, directors and other senior executives who are given new models at different intervals.

As you see, 6 to 7 per cent are not required to keep their old car much longer than it takes them to get used to it. Perhaps in the status league the fresh-car-every-year executive has now climbed above the old feeder: the two-tiered executive. Then again, in many cases the same person may have both distinctions.

Now to some brief summaries of the survey's findings on the provision of other kinds of

bonuses or the like for top managers. Surprisingly the proportion so equipped among companies surveyed last year was higher: 71 per cent. Of those

with such incentives, the proportion awarding them solely on the basis of the performance of the company as a whole was down from 47 to 39 per cent. Companies including individual achievement as a criterion were up from 51 to 62 per cent.

For some reason the PA report gives no 1985 figures for the other executive categories. But the 45 per cent of companies providing them in 1984 compared with 40 the year before and 35 in 1983.

For pension arrangements, nine-tenths of the organisations are contracted out of the State scheme, and seven in 10 provide for at least two thirds of final salary.

Loans

Only one in every 20 of the companies has a scheme for assistance with house-buying. Such schemes all entail a direct loan from company funds and all senior executives benefit. Only enough of the same applies to merely 67 per cent of directors.

Loans for other purposes such as buying season tickets and what PA somewhat inscrutably terms "personal crisis" — are offered at 13 per cent.

A tenth provide assistance with educational expenses. In every case the help available applies to costs of children at university. Private senior-school fees are subsidised in three-quarters of cases, and prepara-

tion for managing one of

the senior managers to a

different area, more than nine

ten-tenths pay all costs such as

travelling expenses, preliminary

visits to the new place, removal,

temporary accommodation,

estate agent's commission, legal

fees and stamp duty plus a dis-

tribution allowance. Except for

the disturbance money, seven in

ten provide the same to newly

recruited top people who have

to move home to take the

job.

Last, but sadly often far from

the least important: three in

every five of the chiefs and

the directors are entitled to

more than three months' notice.

The same applies to only 28

per cent of the other managers.

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Salary will be negotiable and benefits include mortgage subsidy and non-contributory pension.

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General Manager

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- THE NEED is for a senior financial executive who will ideally be a graduate and a chartered accountant.
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Write in complete confidence to P. S. Alexander as adviser to the society.

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Head of Quality and Standards in Training

£20,010-£24,315

The Manpower Services Commission's Quality and Standards Branch leads the Commission's efforts to secure acceptance of objective standards of achievement as the basis for entry to jobs, movement between jobs, and within training and vocational education. In addition to encouraging development of standards of training, particularly in sectors with no such tradition, the Branch is developing, in association with validating and standard setting bodies, methodology on content, assessment and validation of performance, at the Government's request. The Commission is now seeking to develop the Youth Training Scheme so as to increase opportunities for vocational training leading to specific qualifications.

As Head of the Branch you will be the Commission's chief quality adviser responsible to the Director of Youth Training and, through him, to the Commission for developing the Commission's general approach to standards, assessment and certification, and specifically for developing and maintaining quality and standards in the Youth Training Scheme. You will have direct responsibility for 7 multi-

disciplinary teams of professional and administrative staff and links with 8 regional Quality Advisers. You should have held a senior post in the industrial/training/educational fields; have first-hand experience in development/planning/direction/management of education or training programmes to meet industrial needs; have an up-to-date knowledge of curriculum and related developments relevant to Youth Training and vocational education; and have knowledge of standard setting bodies and how they operate. You should have proven management and negotiating skills and the background, status and ability to influence professional and national bodies concerned with standard setting, technical and vocational education and training, and training development.

Salary (under review): £20,010-£24,315. The post is based in Sheffield and is for a period of 3 years initially with a possibility of extension or conversion to a permanent appointment. Longer or secondment will be considered. For further details and an application form (to be returned by 11 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alerton Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 483351 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/85/42.

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Manpower Services Commission

UK Marketing — Major Multinationals —

Our client is a major US bank with a long established presence in London. They currently seek an experienced banker to lead a small team which is responsible for their relationships with UK-based multinationals. At Vice President level, the role encompasses managing an existing portfolio and generating new proposals to meet the diverse needs of these significant clients.

Candidates with degree/MBA will currently be dealing with major multinational companies at main board level and will be familiar with the full range of both commercial and capital markets products. They must have at least seven years international banking experience with a large US bank, display rigorous credit skills and have good knowledge of US & UK accounting and tax procedures.

The remuneration package is negotiable, and will depend on age and experience.

Interested applicants should contact Chris Smith on 01-404 5751 or write, enclosing a curriculum vitae, to the Banking and Finance Division at 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref: 3500.

MP

Michael Page Partnership

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INTERNATIONAL BANKING

CAPITAL MARKETS SENIOR EXECUTIVE £Highly Neg.

Our client is a prominent and rapidly expanding merchant bank. An experienced commercial banker is required for a Senior Capital Markets Executive who has a primary and secondary market background, to run a department involved in the development of the bank's capital markets business, including FRPL and NPL. Candidates are likely to be aged 35 to 40 with high general relevant experience at partner level. An ability to work with a team and to negotiate according to experience and will reflect the importance attributed to the role by our client.

Contact: Leslie Squires

SENIOR BOND TRADERS £Highly Neg.

Our client, a major UK merchant bank, wishes to appoint two Senior Bond Traders. One position is required for a Senior, who is responsible for building and developing bond trading operations, the other for a Bond Trader. Our client seeks a highly experienced staff on the sector; the other will be for a good Bond Trader. Our client seeks to attract the best talent available in the market. The role is prepared to negotiate remuneration package up to £10,000.

Contact: Leslie Squires

CORPORATE F.X. DEALERS (Major bank in new venture) £15,000-£30,000

One of the largest banking institutions in the City is merging its foreign exchange and treasury activities. They require both experienced and unexperienced Corporate Dealers with the ability to handle a wide range of foreign exchange and treasury services. The client has 10% of the wider UK foreign exchange market in every area is considerable. Career prospects are particularly exciting in the atmosphere of change and very interesting. The role will be for a Senior Corporate Dealer. The Corporate Dealer will be a top class commercial competitor with knowledge and exposure to currency markets.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

SENIOR SPOT F/X DEALER to c.£25,000

A major international bank, notably active in the spot foreign exchange market, is seeking to appoint a highly experienced and unexperienced Corporate Dealer with the ability to handle a wide range of foreign exchange and treasury services. The client has 10% of the wider UK foreign exchange market in every area is considerable. Career prospects are particularly exciting in the atmosphere of change and very interesting. The role will be for a Senior Corporate Dealer. The Corporate Dealer will be a top class commercial competitor with knowledge and exposure to currency markets.

Contact: Kevin Anderson

INVESTMENT ANALYSTS £Highly Neg.

A prime UK merchant bank, with an established record of investment banking, is seeking to appoint an investment analyst in an exciting new venture. They require both experienced and unexperienced Corporate Dealers with the ability to handle a wide range of foreign exchange and treasury services. The client has 10% of the wider UK foreign exchange market in every area is considerable. Career prospects are particularly exciting in the atmosphere of change and very interesting. The role will be for a Senior Corporate Dealer. The Corporate Dealer will be a top class commercial competitor with knowledge and exposure to currency markets.

Contact: Sarah Beaumont

MANAGER TRADE FINANCE c.£25,000

On behalf of a well-backed, rapidly expanding international banking organisation recently established in the City, we are seeking to appoint a Manager of Trade Finance. The role will be marketing of innovative commercial trade finance packages to UK corporate customers. The ideal candidate will be a dedicated professional leader (aged 30 to 40) who has a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar role, with a sound knowledge of ECSC regulations and trade finance services. Career prospects are particularly exciting, to liaise with our client's unexpired project.

Contact: Kay Anderson

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Contact: Felicity Hodder

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Contact: Felicity Hodder

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Preference would be given to someone who already monitors the Eurobonds markets for a newsletter or a related computer based system.

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Shell U.K. Exploration and Production

ECONOMIC APPRAISAL ANALYST

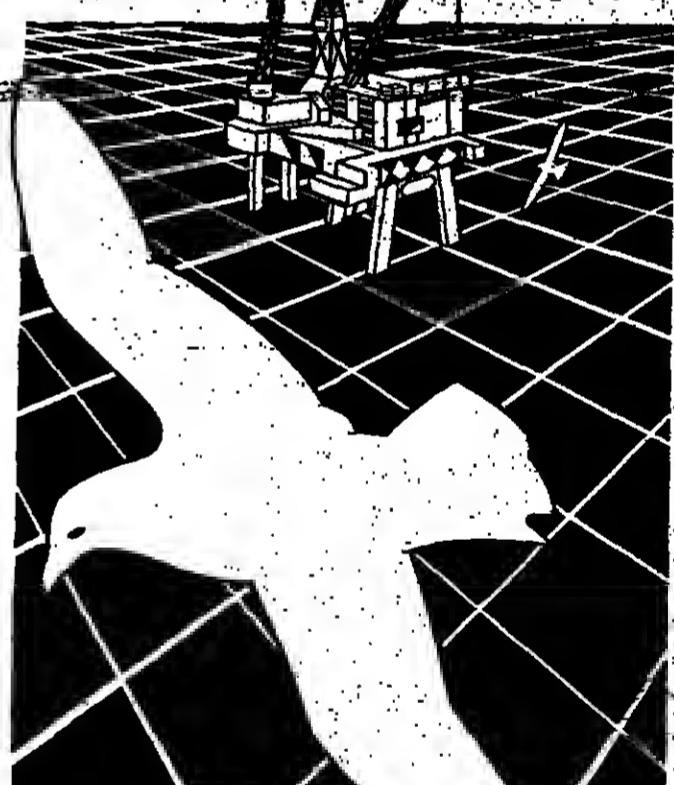
Already one of the leading offshore operating companies, the results of exploration surveys conducted show that we have the potential to maintain that position into the next decade and beyond. Realising that potential will, of course, involve... immense capital investment; investment which will have to be preceded by detailed economic and financial appraisal if the right decisions are to be made. In the position for which we are now recruiting, you will, therefore, have an important role to play in translating technological achievement into commercial success.

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Our client is a leading firm of stockbrokers who will shortly become part of a major new investment banking group. They have a strong commitment to the continuing development of their investment trust business, whose foundation is a sophisticated computer information system.

You will be responsible for ensuring that the business has access on a real-time basis to the most accurate data possible on the net asset value of investment trusts. Aided by two assistants, you will generate this information through research and detailed financial analysis. Prospects are excellent for long-term personal development within the investment trust sector.

Probably aged 23+ and a graduate, you must have a sound understanding of accounting principles and ideally some relevant sector knowledge. You may for example have studied oil and gas management.

The remuneration package will depend very much on age and experience but for the right candidate will not be a limiting factor.

Please write with full career and salary details. These will be forwarded direct to our client. List separately any companies to whom your application should not be sent. Peter Evans ref. B.2021.

This appointment is open to men and women.

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John Haworth

Corporate Finance Executive

Bristol

Singer & Friedlander Limited wish to recruit an experienced Corporate Finance Executive for their Bristol office. Candidates should ideally be in the age range 30-40, with a recognised accountancy/legal qualification or related degree, and have had at least five years experience of corporate finance work, probably gained in a merchant bank. This is a senior position with prospects of further promotion. An attractive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience is offered, together with a good pension scheme. Relocation expenses will be provided, if appropriate.

Applications, together with a full curriculum vitae, should be addressed to:

Panton Corbet,
Singer & Friedlander Limited,
21 New Street, Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4HR.

Singer & Friedlander is an equal opportunity employer

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER
Merchant Bankers

CORPORATE BANKING

Our Client provides a wide range of sophisticated financial services ranging from capital market related products, through loans, acceptance credits, tax-based lending, development capital, to the more traditional areas of corporate finance.

In line with the bank's continuing growth, it seeks to recruit an experienced banker to join its banking division where the emphasis is directed towards the structuring of creative financing transactions on behalf of its predominantly UK corporate clientele.

Our brief is to identify individuals with strong and broadly-based skills who can demonstrate the ability to contribute significantly to the maintenance and development of a highly successful and professional operation.

Candidates, ideally graduates in their late 20's/30's and professionally qualified, will have been exposed to a wide variety of techniques and situations, and will be encouraged to apply elements of flair, imagination and commitment within this highly responsive environment.

Contact Norman Philips in confidence
on 01-248 3812

NPA Recruitment Services Ltd

60 Cheapside, London EC2. Telephone 01-248 3812 3 4 5

Management Consultants - Executive Search

Sales Financing Manager

£20,000 + Car

A major high technology capital goods group, supplying highly competitive world markets is now seeking an innovative sales financing specialist for this key management appointment within the treasury department.

The role provides the opportunity to gain varied and direct experience in support of the international sales of a high profile British exporter. It will involve a keen sense of the needs of a variety of major international customers, a sound knowledge of the available financing methods, and the ability to structure the most advantageous schemes for each individual situation.

Applicants should be professionally qualified or business graduates with relevant experience in a capital goods group or banking. The technical competence and personal standing to deal independently at a senior level with international customers, bankers and intermediaries is essential. Overseas business travel of around 60 days p.a. is likely to be involved. Ideal age range 28-32.

Please apply in confidence quoting ref. L179, to:

Chris Haworth
Mason & Nurse Associates
1 Lancaster Place, Strand,
London WC2E 7EB
Tel: 01-240 7805

Mason & Nurse Selection & Search

MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Our Firm's rapid growth over the past 18 months has created a need for experienced Settlements personnel. Successful candidates will have a unique opportunity to quickly move into supervisory/managerial positions in a dynamic organisation.

Successful candidates will be bright, self-motivated and will have proven analytical abilities. They will also possess well developed interpersonal skills that ensure their success in a team orientated environment.

Because we are looking for a few exceptional people, we realise the rewards must be substantial. We plan to provide an excellent compensation package with above average increases for those who perform well. You will also be expected to develop major initiatives with senior management as the Firm continues its expansion into new emerging world markets.

If you would like to pursue this challenging career opportunity please send your C.V. and a letter explaining why you are interested to:

Box No. RTS 12, c/o Extel Advertising Ltd.,
Hazlitt House, 4 Bouverie Street, London EC4Y 8AB.

CAPITAL MARKETS Senior Manager

£35K + bonus
+ benefits

As one of the strongest underwriters in the European Capital Markets, Nomura has considerable issue management expertise and unrivalled placing power. This has been derived from over 500 international public offerings, including 48 last year which totalled almost \$4.5bn.

Developing and providing our extensive range of products and services for sophisticated borrowers and investors requires a talented staff of dedicated professionals. We now seek to augment our senior management with a capital markets specialist to deal with European private sector companies.

In your late twenties/early thirties, you must have at least three years'

European-orientated capital market experience. Travelling extensively abroad, you will need a sound knowledge of the UK and continental corporate sector together with senior-level negotiating skills. Knowledge of European languages, especially German, would be an advantage.

The exceptional salary is supported by a benefits package which includes a bonus scheme, BUPA membership and a mortgage subsidy scheme.

Candidates should write with full career details to: Michael T. Brookes, Associate Director, Personnel, Nomura International Limited, Nomura House, 24 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ.

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Executive Selection Consultancy

London

We are a major management consultancy practice, and we wish to add to our busy executive selection team.

An executive selection consultant advises clients, at Board level, on senior recruitment and related matters such as organisation, remuneration and succession. This requires the ability to organise and carry out a wide range of assignments with the minimum of day-to-day supervision.

We want to hear from graduates who are personnel professionals, probably aged 35 to 40, whose variety of experience has created a special interest in executive selection.

Please write to Michael Ping, enclosing a detailed curriculum vitae, including current remuneration, and quoting ref. E/55/F, at Ernst & Whinney Management Consultants, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.

Ernst & Whinney

EUROPEAN CREDIT MANAGER Neg. £30,000 (Package)

A Major International Bank is seeking a French/German speaking US credit trained Candidate aged 32-35 years. Experience of big-ticket leasing, project and corporate finance is essential. Transactions for vetting will be in the £2M - £1.5M range, and will entail some travel to the Bank's European branches.

CREDIT MANAGER Neg. £25,000-£30,000

A French national, with fluency in English, experience of major asset finance and very strong credit skills, is sought by a Major International Bank. The ability to train and motivate the credit team is essential. Age about 32 years.

CREDIT MANAGER c.£25,000 + Car + Benefits

Our client, a European Bank, seeks applications from Candidates with at least 10 years credit experience encompassing, ideally, a mix of financial products such as leasing, property finance, and UK corporate banking. Age range 40-45 years.

TRAINEE MARKETING/CREDIT OFFICER Neg. £12,000-£15,000

A career minded, high calibre Graduate, probably US credit trained, aged 25-28 years with at least 2/3 years experience of large company balance sheet appraisals/propositions, is sought by a London based Bank. Full career advancement to a marketing function is envisaged in the medium term, which will involve project/ship finance in addition to usual UK and European corporates.

For the above vacancies please contact Brian Gooch or Jill Backhouse.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

JONATHAN WREN & CO. LIMITED, 170 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4LX.

Tel: 01-623 1266

Jonathan Wren
RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS

Shepherd Little & Webster Ltd Banking Recruitment Consultants

SENIOR REGIONAL MANAGER - MARKETING to £30,000

We have been retained by a well known International Merchant Bank to recruit a Senior Regional Manager who will play a key role in marketing and developing a range of corporate advisory services.

This position demands a highly motivated individual with a creative outlook who is able to negotiate at executive level with government bodies, private companies and banks. Our Client views this as an outstanding opportunity offering excellent prospects for future career development. Accordingly a salary up to £30,000 is envisaged plus Company Car and Mortgage benefit.

Please contact John Webster

ASSISTANT MANAGER - CREDIT ADMIN. c£14,500

Our Client is the Merchant banking arm of a well known International bank. Duties will be split between Loans Administration and Credit Review although the emphasis, from an experience point of view, will be towards loans administration. No more than a basic understanding of balance sheet interpretation is required.

Please contact Paul Trumble or David Little

EUROBOND TRADER

to £25,000

A well respected Overseas Securities House, currently seeks to recruit a Eurobond Trader with a minimum of 6 months trading experience.

For further details please contact Brenda Shepherd

SPOT DEALER

c£20,000

An expanding room with a good name International bank is available for an experienced spot dealer aged mid to late 20's.

Please contact Paul Trumble or David Little

Ridgway House 41/42 King William Street London EC4R 9EN

Telephone 01-626 1161

SALES/MARKETING MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

Market Analyst

The Baker Perkins Group is an international leader in the marketing, design and manufacture of capital plant and machinery for the worldwide food, printing, chemical and packaging industries.

For our European sales and marketing plans, we wish to recruit a high calibre Market Analyst to work in our Group marketing services operation based in Peterborough. Responsibilities will include the gathering, interpretation and presentation of market, business and economic data, including the preparation of detailed industry field surveys, to identify new business opportunities for the Group companies. This may involve a total of 30 months each year researching elsewhere in the UK or overseas.

Within 2 to 3 years the successful candidate is expected to have made a significant career move to join the management of one of the Group's operating subsidiaries. The position represents an excellent opportunity to satisfy the career objectives of an ambitious and dedicated professional. It will

demand enthusiasm, perseverance, initiative and the ability to work with all levels of management. The successful candidate will be a graduate in his or her twenties who, ideally, has also obtained a relevant business qualification. Significant work experience is essential, particularly in the food, chemical and consumer durable goods industries, and working knowledge of one or more modern European languages would be useful.

A highly competitive salary and benefits package will be offered, including relocation expenses where appropriate. Peterborough is an attractive cathedral city with an excellent choice of housing, education and leisure facilities.

Applications are invited to submit full personal and career details, including present address, to Mark Gibbons, Group Personnel Manager, Baker Perkins Holdings plc, Westfield Road, Peterborough PE3 6TA. Telephone: 0733 261261.

Baker Perkins

Unadvertised Posts

Over 70% of the unadvertised appointments identified by leading redeployment consultants come from recruitment consultants. CEPIC's Job Search Guide lists over 100 leading recruitment consultants and costs £7.25. Phone 01 930 0322 or write:

CEPEC 67 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6NZ.
London 01-930 0322, York (0804) 642490
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Merrill Lynch

Corporate Finance Executive

Bristol

Singer & Friedlander Limited wish to recruit an experienced Corporate Finance Executive for their Bristol office. Candidates should ideally be in the age range 30-40, with a recognised accountancy/legal qualification or related degree, and have had at least five years experience of corporate finance work, probably gained in a merchant bank. This is a senior position with prospects of further promotion. An attractive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience is offered, together with a good pension scheme. Relocation expenses will be provided, if appropriate.

Applications, together with a full curriculum vitae, should be addressed to:

Panton Corbet,
Singer & Friedlander Limited,
21 New Street, Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4HR.

Singer & Friedlander is an equal opportunity employer

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER
Merchant Bankers

Corporate Finance Executive

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Panton Corbet,
Singer & Friedlander Limited,
21 New Street, Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4HR.

Singer & Friedlander is an equal opportunity employer

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER
Merchant Bankers

Financial Editor City

£17-25,000 + car

Our client is a major supplier of professional business services to a wide range of industrial and commercial concerns. They have recently set up an enthusiastic marketing team to help them expand and diversify and now need an outstanding Financial Editor to lead their publication activities.

The person appointed will be expected to write, edit, and progress the publication of a wide variety of promotional and technical material relating to the range of services. There will be substantial involvement with senior management and your responsibilities will include developing a network of freelance journalists.

Candidates should be graduates with a successful record of writing accurately and persuasively in a financial environment.

Experience of managing freelance journalists would be an advantage. You will be playing a pioneering role in applying creative skills to technical publications, and will need to be convincing and tactful.

This is an opportunity to develop your talents in a highly professional environment where intellectual demands are high. If you have the flair and ability to join a marketing team operating in one of the most dynamic sectors of the UK economy please send full personal, salary and career details in confidence to Alison Bott, quoting reference 1458/FT on both envelope and letter.

**Deloitte
Haskins + Sells**

Management Consultants

128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX

TAXATION MANAGER

A creative role for a senior specialist
Up to £24,000 plus car

Ford Motor Company Limited seeks a mature taxation expert to assume responsibility for its tax function. As part of the company's legal and tax organisation, the department is responsible for all aspects of corporate taxation, including VAT and social security taxes.

Versatility and a high degree of self-motivation are important requisites for this senior position. The ability to communicate well at all levels, especially with senior management, and to engage in detailed negotiations with the authorities is essential.

The position is likely to appeal to an individual who has gained considerable experience with the Inland Revenue or a major accounting firm.



Practical knowledge of a multinational environment would be helpful and it is unlikely that anyone under the age of 30 will have acquired sufficient confidence and proficiency to satisfy the high standards required.

The remuneration package offered to the successful applicant will fully reflect the importance of this key position - a salary in a range to £24,000 and benefits including a free car. Relocation assistance will be given where appropriate.

Please write, enclosing a full CV, to Chris Stephenson, Room 1/16, Ford Motor Company Limited, Eagle Way, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BW. Alternatively, telephone him on:

Brentwood (0277) 252217.

APPOINTMENTS
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Spanish speaking... SENIOR CORPORATE BANKING OFFICER

to £30,000 + Car + Benefits

Our client, an international bank, seeks an experienced Corporate Banking Officer to develop and market a full range of corporate finance consulting services and new fee generating business with governmental institutions, private companies and banks.

This key role, based in London, has arisen through the expansion of a specialist group with a strong and successful presence in Latin America. Applications for this progressive career opportunity are invited from Spanish speaking international bankers aged between 27 and 35 years who have gained substantial experience in marketing corporate credit and finance. A background encompassing formal US credit training and Latin American business experience, will be a distinct advantage.

The successful candidate will be a highly motivated individual who has a creative commercial outlook with an awareness of the macro-economic issues involved. Travel to Latin America will be frequent. An attractive salary to the level indicated will be offered according to experience together with an excellent bank benefits package.

Please contact Leslie Squires. Telephone 01-588 6644, or send a detailed Curriculum Vitae to him in the strictest confidence at the address below.

Anderson, Squires Ltd.,
Bank Recruitment Specialists,
85 London Wall,
London EC2M 7AE.

Anderson, Squires

Private Banking Officer

Merrill Lynch International Bank is expanding its private banking operations in London, New York, Switzerland and Singapore.

This growth requires an additional experienced professional to market the security collateralized lending operation to key clients through the Merrill Lynch brokerage offices in the Western Hemisphere.

The successful candidate should have:

- 5-7 years experience within either Investment or Merchant Banking. While not essential, a thorough knowledge of the securities market would be of interest.
- Fluency in Spanish and English
- an MBA or equivalent qualification
- Good inter-personal skills in presentation and marketing.

The position, which requires extensive travel, will be London based for at least one year, but candidates should be willing to relocate to New York thereafter.

This is a senior marketing appointment which will be reflected in the compensation package.

Please write with full career details to Keith Robinson, Recruitment Manager, Merrill Lynch Europe Ltd., 27/28 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AQ.



Merrill Lynch

PARTNERS ASSISTANT REQUIRED

IN PRIVATE CLIENTS
DEPARTMENT OF

VIVIAN GRAY & CO

Applicants must have good knowledge of Stock Exchange procedures and be experienced in reviewing and advising on trust and personal portfolios. Preferred age 24/30.

Apply in writing, with curriculum vitae, to:
The Staff Partner
VIVIAN GRAY & CO
Ling House
10/13 Dominion Street
London EC2

FUND MANAGEMENT Japan

£400 million Portfolios

With this appointment we strengthen a team of London based fund Managers which has a consistently successful record in the Japanese markets.

This position is primarily concerned with portfolio management of equity positions in Japan. Responsibilities will range from researching companies and portfolio management, to creating and sustaining relationships with clients, stockbrokers and investment advisors. Applications are invited from candidates of outstanding ability who have about three years' Japanese portfolio management



PRUDENTIAL PORTFOLIO
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experience. Graduates who have a good grounding in economics, finance or statistics will be preferred. Knowledge of written or conversational Japanese will be an obvious advantage.

Remuneration will be fully competitive and includes a mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension scheme and free life assurance. Please write with full cv, in strict confidence, to Chris Eatwell, Personnel Manager, Prudential Portfolio Managers Limited, 142 Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH.

Young Accountants & Lawyers

*Capitalise on your professional skills
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...with Charterhouse Japhet plc, a leading member of the Accepting Houses Committee. The Charterhouse Group provides clients with the full range of merchant banking services and, with its Development Capital and Venture Capital companies, has a strong reputation for innovation and professionalism. We have a firm capital base, the backing of the Royal Bank of Scotland, yet we are small enough to be responsive and flexible - an ideal position from which to take advantage of the changing financial environment. Our Corporate Finance Department will be one of the leaders in our growth over the next few years, and we are therefore looking to strengthen this area with additional

Corporate Finance Executives

As a member of a highly professional group you will, after training, be given early involvement and responsibility in the handling of both domestic and international business ranging from contested takeover through flotations to off balance sheet finance. We set high standards but your success will be well rewarded through our aggressive approach to remuneration and benefits.

It is likely you will have had one or two years' relevant post-qualification experience, although this is not essential. Some exposure to special problem solving for clients will be a distinct advantage. We will look particularly for candidates with lively, creative minds and with the ambition and potential to build a fast-track career in this competitive and challenging environment.

Please write with full details to Rodney Barker, Director, Charterhouse Japhet plc, 1 Paternoster Row, St Paul's, London EC4.



ASSISTANT COMPANY SECRETARY £17,000 + full banking benefits

Our client is a British Merchant Bank operating worldwide from a base in the City of London. This is a new post introduced to meet the demands generated by a senior management restructuring. The incumbent will report to the Group Secretary who is an Assistant Director of the parent company. The Assistant Company Secretary will be expected to assume responsibilities for:

* The statutory requirements of 8 subsidiary companies.

* The placing and review of a major trading related, domestic, and staff insurance portfolio, through subsidiary companies and via third parties.

* Providing inhouse legal assistance across the range of documents and contracts arising from the business of the bank, the occupation of its premises, the purchase of goods and services, leases and personnel arrangements, including employment legislation.

* Management of purchasing and catering staff.

Candidates should have a law degree or suitable professional qualifications and be aged 28-32. Ideally they must combine experience of the above fields with a background in corporate banking or have related experience in one of the larger City based legal departments. Evidence of strong general management potential is expected.

Salary is £17,000 plus a subsidised mortgage, contributory pension scheme, 25 days holiday per annum, interest free season ticket loan and other benefits.

Please forward a full CV with salary history quoting reference 367 to Terry Fuller at Deansgate Management Services, 63/66 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4JZ. Tel: 01-240 9355.

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Assistant Borough Treasurer

(3 Posts)

Salary £17,859-£18,933

Arising from a complete reorganisation of the Borough Treasurer's Department, three major career opportunities are now open to determined and ambitious applicants with relevant public or private sector experience.

As second-tier appointments, the postholders will represent and depose for the Borough Treasurer, as required.

In addition, as members of the departmental management team, they will contribute to the direction of all the department's work including:

- ★ Accountancy and financial management
- ★ Housing finance and income
- ★ Audit and rating
- ★ Administration and payroll

Consequently they will be expected to have the ability, potential and drive necessary to develop and improve performance throughout the department. In order to maximise performance and to develop potential to the full, the actual functions of each successful candidate will be determined in the light of their strength and career development needs.

If you would like to know more about these challenging opportunities, then ring Chris Ennis, Borough Treasurer, on 01-690 4343 ext 385.

Application forms, returnable by 7th June 1985, and job descriptions from Mrs Divers, Room 203, Town Hall, Catford, London SE6 4RU or telephone 01-690 4343 ext 252 quoting reference T2 and job title.

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Our jobs are open equally to all races and both sexes.

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BADERNOCH & CLARK

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

To £20,000 + Bens

Our client, one of the leading Investment Banks, seeks to recruit a high calibre graduate with two years' experience of marketing financial products to U.K. Corporates.

Ideally you should have a background in the Business Development Division of a Merchant Bank, a sound credit training and a desire to further your career in Corporate Fund Raising. The successful candidate is likely to have some knowledge of, if not direct exposure to, sophisticated capital market products and an ability to liaise with Blue-chip U.K. Corporate clients.

This represents an excellent opportunity for a bright young commercial banker to move into the dynamic Capital Markets Field.

INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE FINANCE - CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

c.£16,000 + Bens

A rare and exciting opportunity has emerged for a top flight graduate A.C.A. to pursue a career as a Corporate Finance Executive, in the International Capital Markets arena. This position has arisen as a result of our client's rapid and successful expansion and offers excellent prospects. Initial duties would involve assisting a director working on an international portfolio, including responsibility for documentation, financing and marketing support. On-the-job training will be provided.

For a confidential discussion of these and many other financial openings please contact Christopher Lawless or Stuart Clifford.

Financial Recruitment Specialists
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU
Telephone 01-583 0073

U.S. Equities Dealer

Salary c£15,000 + bonus

Our client, a major U.S. investment house, seeks applicants for a vital role in their dealing room, covering U.S. equity transactions.

A high basic salary and potentially high bonus earnings can be yours, as well as the chance to develop your career with one of the busiest and most successful U.S. investment houses. Ideally you should be in your mid-20's and have worked in U.S. equities, possibly with a U.K. stockbroker. You will be expected to be industrious, keen and tough, with a sensitive nose for news

and the ability to get on well with portfolio managers and colleagues. After 2 or 3 months on-the-job training, you could find yourself working harder than ever before, in an exciting environment.

If you're ready for the challenge, telephone Chris Smith on 01-404 5751 or write to him, enclosing a c.v., at the Banking and Finance Division, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref. 3501. All applications will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.



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Inspection Opportunities for Accountants and Bankers (LONDON BASED)

The Inspection Division of TSB England & Wales is an independent Head Office function responsible for inspection and audit of all operational activities of the Bank.

Within the division three important vacancies have arisen.

Commercial Lending Inspector c£18,000 + Car

This is definitely not a desk-bound appointment. A good deal of time will be spent out and about visiting branches with large commercial portfolios, carrying out inspections at Regional Credit Control departments, as well as providing specialist support and

training to the Branch Inspectors. The appointment is London based, although the postholder will cover both our London and Exeter Regions. A banking background, AIB qualification and practical business/lending experience is essential.

Central Banking Services:

Executive Officer

c£16,000

Administrative Officer

c£14,000

This department undertakes reviews and investigations of the central banking activities of CTSB Ltd and TSB England & Wales. Applicants for either of the positions must therefore be able to prepare cogent reports for management and to produce effective systems evaluation and audit programmes.

The Executive Officer position is also responsible for liaison with the Bank's external auditors and for the training and super-

sion of the department's Inspection staff.

Applicants for the Executive Officer post should be ACA qualified whilst applicants for the Administrative Officer post should be at least part qualified.

For all three positions successful applicants will receive in addition to the salary indicated, the usual attractive benefits associated with a major banking organisation including mortgage subsidy and non-contributory pension.

Please apply in confidence, enclosing a full CV to arrive no later than 6th June 1985 to: Mr C.P. Allsopp, Development & Training Manager, TSB England & Wales, Head Office, 100 Lower Thames Street, London, EC3R 6AQ. Quote Ref. No. HFT.

Scrimgeour Vickers & Co

SENIOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT APPOINTMENT

— USE YOUR ENTREPRENEURIAL DRIVE TO DEVELOP MIDDLE EAST MARKETS

Scrimgeour Vickers & Co and Citicorp have combined their expertise to take advantage of the radical changes in the financial market place. We require a Senior Business Development Professional for our institutional sales teams to service and develop our existing Middle East client base as well as promote new business in the region.

Your background will be one of extensive investment industry experience involving stockbroking and fund management. In addition, you will need a quick intelligence, a lively mind, enthusiasm and the poise, confidence and maturity expected of an influential figure operating in a high profile position. You will be based in London but extensive client contact will be required, therefore you must be familiar with Middle East markets and culture as there will be frequent travel to the region.

The remuneration package and potential for further growth will fully reflect the importance of this key appointment.

Please write, enclosing a full C.V. to:

Merian Davis
SCRIMGEOUR VICKERS & CO
20 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7JS



MORTGAGE AND INSURANCE BROKER

Exceptional candidate with West End/City background in insurance or finance required by Winkworth's Financial Service company to handle substantial mortgage business generated by the Scottish Equitable Agency Group and its associates. Successful applicant will have good judgment, ability to work under pressure and thorough knowledge of financial sources.

Please write in confidence, with full personal and career details to:

HENRIETTA SMYTH
WINKWORTH
25A MOTCOMB ST, SW1

Marketing and Business Strategy

The Corporate Advisory Service of the Agency provides consultancy and advisory support to strategically selected businesses. This service is to be strengthened further by the appointment of a Senior Business Adviser, with skills in the field of industrial marketing and business planning.

The objective is to provide companies with practical board level assistance on all aspects of marketing and business strategy. This includes identification and analysis of business problems, preparation of proposals and the implementation of solutions.

Arthur Young Executive Selection
A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

Success will stem from a graduate level qualification in a numerate discipline backed by sound industrial experience of corporate planning or marketing. Consultancy experience would be valuable, but a strong record in line management could be equally relevant.

Age: 35 plus. Location: Glasgow. Please write in complete confidence to David Wolfenden as adviser to the Agency.

Arthur Young Management Consultants, 17 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh EH3 6LT.

Senior Investment Manager

Manufacturers Hanover Investment Management Limited is the wholly owned subsidiary of Manufacturers Hanover Investment Corporation of New York and manages investments for international institutional and private clients. We are seeking an investment professional to manage worldwide equity and fixed income portfolios. This person will also be expected to assist in the international marketing of the investment group's services. The position will be at either Senior Investment Manager or Director level.

It is likely that the successful applicant will be a graduate with 5-10 years' investment experience.

Salary is entirely negotiable depending on the individual and will be supported by a generous fringe benefits package.

Applications should be sent to:

John E. W. Bamford, Assistant General Manager, Manufacturers Hanover Limited, 7 Princes Street, London EC2P 2EN.

M MANUFACTURERS HANOVER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT On-line Investment Information

City Excellent Salary

Our clients, a leading firm of stockbrokers, are exploiting the available micro-computer and communications technology to offer private institutional clients a comprehensive investment and portfolio service.

The division is established and now needs an ambitious manager to expand its cover both in terms of client base and the range of services.

You will be an inventive manager with knowledge of marketing investment services, an appreciation of the developing technologies and the determination to be successful.

For further details write or ring the number below during office hours quoting Ref: N/A.

R
ROCHESTER

Rochester Recruitment Ltd., 21 College Hill, London EC4R 2RP

Telephone: 01-248 8346

MUSLIM COMMERCIAL BANK LTD. LICENSED DEPOSIT TAKER

An opportunity has been created for the appointment of an experienced and versatile officer to join our newly re-organised licensed deposit taker business. Ideally the candidate will have experience in negotiating, documenting and supervising a Euro currency loan/asset portfolio. Ideally A.I.B. qualified with minimum 3 years' experience in the practical field.

The Personal Manager,
MUSLIM COMMERCIAL BANK LTD.,
49/70 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7JA.

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مكتاب من الأحرى

INTERNATIONAL BANKING

Jimmy Burns reports from Buenos Aires on a serious threat to Argentinian banking practice

Banco de Italia collapse hints at further trouble

THE COLLAPSE of Argentina's third largest private bank, the Banco de Italia y Rio de la Plata, is proving much more than a simple storm in the teatop. Some officials claimed at the time that it was from the immediate consequences—a run on dollar deposits last week severely strained the liquidity of other banks—the collapse has raised serious questions about local banking practice. It has also put to the test President Raúl Alfonsín's electoral pledge that he would clean out the financial system—and, in more subtle and transparent as part of the fight against 1,000 per cent inflation.

Banco de Italia y Rio de la Plata, or "Italia," as it was popularly known, was a mirror image of the country's history. Founded in 1872 by an Italian immigrant, it benefited from successive waves of immigration and the influence that Italo-Argentines have grown to have on local politics. But Italia's tradition and sense of responsibility, openness, and controversial performances in recent years, A hint of what lay beneath its public image was dramatically exposed during the temporary union occupation of the bank's main headquarters last week. From the windows of one of the city's most solidly built and oldest buildings, passers-by were showered by pamphlets accusing the bank's more recent shareholders of embezzlement.

"Grave errors of mismanagement, a large proportion of bad debts, and a high degree of dubious lending between the company associates," was the post-mortem issued last week by an official close to the bank. Italia's then-thin shareholding places the bank in the category of the military coup of March 1976 after its majority shareholding was bought by three Argentine business groups. Senior management of the bank was taken over by a construction group owned by

Sr Francisco Macri. The other shareholders were the Herlitz group, linked to real estate, and the Grupo Juncal, which had as its main pillar 10 associated insurance companies.

After a brief interlude during the transition from democratic to military rule, the three groups set about consolidating their positions. Of the three, Sr Macri appears to have been particularly bold in linking the expansion of Italia to the activities of a growing string of associated companies spanning real estate, energy and manufacturing. These companies, between 1976 and 1981, must have been one of the country's major private holdings.

The bubble burst in 1980 with the collapse of the Banco Intercomercio Regional

ing the Macri group in most of the military's prestige projects such as the multi-billion Yacyretá hydro-electric project and the introduction of mechanised garbage collection in Buenos Aires.

The late 1970s were boom years for the Argentine banking system as it accompanied a revival of the free market economy. The Government over-valued the peso and boosted imports further with the lifting of tariff barriers. The aim was not only to hold down domestic prices but also to open up the economy to domestic and foreign competition after years of stifling protectionism.

The result for the country as a whole was certainly dramatic but not quite in the way the economy minister of the time, Sr José Martínez de Hoz—nicknamed the "Wizard of Hoz"—by the international

community—had hoped.

Bankers and their customers embarked on a financial extravagance, greatly aided by the availability of foreign loans. The value of the peso and high interest rates were recycled and turned into a fat profit virtually at the drop of a hat.

By 1979 Argentine banks found that they were offering interest rates on 30 day money of up to 136 per cent compared with a cost of about 80 per cent on borrowing abroad. Small wonder that deposits grew to a record 26 per cent of GDP from little more than 6 per cent before the military coup. During this period Argentina's foreign debt grew from just over \$7bn to over \$30bn, one of the most dramatic growth rates experienced in the third world.

A normal practice before 1981 was for a company to obtain a local bank guarantee to secure a foreign credit in dollars. This was then converted to pesos on the local exchange market and remitted into the bank which, would then on-lend at an increased spread.

By law Argentine banks were restricted in their investments in non-banking companies or in pursuing preferential treatment of companies which were part of the same group. In practice, however, loopholes were assured by the lax exchange controls and the absence of any restrictions on the amount of foreign currency lending a bank can make to its resident Argentine entities or individuals.

The bubble burst in 1980 with

the collapse of the Banco de Intercomercio Regional, which had grown in just a few years from a little-known finance company run by Sr Luis Gotelli, former Minister of Public Works.

The Grupo Juncal, as the

local representative and sup-

plier for Wang Laboratories,

the U.S. computer group,

played an important role in pro-

viding advanced accounting systems during Italia's "moder-

isation" phase. But officials of the group said this week that they had kept a cautious distance from the bank's main activities ever since. Some failure, gradually shedding its shareholding, and diversifying into safer activities outside the financial system. In April this year Juncal accompanied Siemens of West Germany in a successful bid for ITT's local subsidiary, Standard Electric.

Earlier this year the central bank received notification of Italia's latest bond exchanges and share swaps. Sr Gotelli has sold out to two businessmen, Sr Joaquín Abentín and Sr José

that Italia's underlying insolvency would anyway be tested by a package of financial reforms aimed at channelling the banking system away from speculation and towards productive investment.

The reforms, finally introduced in April, included a clampdown on bank-issuer exchange operations and the elimination of a so-called central bank subsidy to banks in difficulties. The measures were accompanied by claims that the Government had finally launched its offensive against the "Patria Financiera" (financial fiefdoms)—a term used in popular jargon to describe the deeply entrenched banking interests which are alleged to have enriched them selves at the expense of the common man.)

For all the hyperbole, it is clear that when it comes to a large bank like Italia, the politically fragile government of President Raúl Alfonsín is deeply divided between those who see the need to avoid propelling up banks where management and shareholders deserve no support, and those who wished to bolster confidence in the banking system.

In the final analysis, however, the repercussions of Italia's collapse are likely to depend less on good intentions than on the Government's ability to reduce the country's 1,000 per cent rate of inflation.

No amount of legislation is likely to improve Argentine banking practice so long as prices are allowed to fluctuate wildly and the future profitabilty of borrowers remains impossible to calculate.

In the vanguard of the opposition was a young graduate accountant, Sr Marcelo Da Corte, whose meteoric rise from the ranks of the ruling radical party's left wing was confirmed last year with his appointment at the age of 32, to the board at the central bank. Sr Da Corte was among a group of influential officials who were convinced

Prices are allowed to fluctuate wildly and the future profitability of borrowers remains impossible to calculate

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57	55	Airspring Group	55	—	5.4	11.9	8.3	7.1	7.3
150	108	Argosy	150	+1	2.4	5.2	7.2	5.9	5.9
120	102	Argus Technologies	120	+1	3.4	11.1	11.1	8.2	8.2
120	102	Argus Group	120	+1	12.8	7.4	4.1	3.5	3.5
115	105	Argus Group	115	+1	4.9	4.3	5.7	8.0	8.0
72	72	Argus Group	72	+1	8.2	13.8	4.5	7.2	7.2
212	192	Frank Horwill Pr-Ord	212	+1	9.2	3.7	10.4	13.7	13.7
208	170	Frederick Parker	208	+1	2.7	13.5	5.5	7.7	7.7
58	53	Frederick Parker	58	+1	2.7	13.5	5.5	7.7	7.7
50	20	Frederick Parker	50	+1	5.0	18.2	7.2	13.1	13.1
214	101	Ind. Group	214	+1	4.9	4.7	8.5	8.5	8.5
228	213	James Burrough Soc Pl.	228	+1	13.7	5.8	6.4	12.4	12.4
93	93	James Burrough Soc Pl.	93	+1	12.0	14.3	6.7	11.0	11.0
228	100	Lingusphone Ord.	228	+1	5.0	6.7	8.4	12.5	12.5
100	93	Lingusphone 10.5pc Pl.	100	+1	15.0	15.3	8.4	12.5	12.5
300	288	Lynden Holdings NV	300	+1	8.8	1.1	27.8	26.5	26.5
60	51	Lynden Holdings NV	60	+1	5.0	18.8	17.0	4.1	4.1
60	51	Scruton's "A"	60	+1	5.7	18.8	17.0	4.1	4.1
60	51	Torday and Carlisle	60	+1	5.7	18.8	17.0	4.1	4.1
444	320	Uniflock Holdings	444	+1	5.0	4.3	14.6	21.0	21.0
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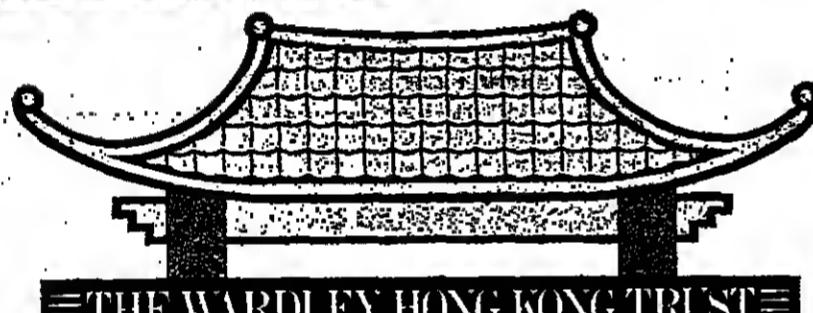


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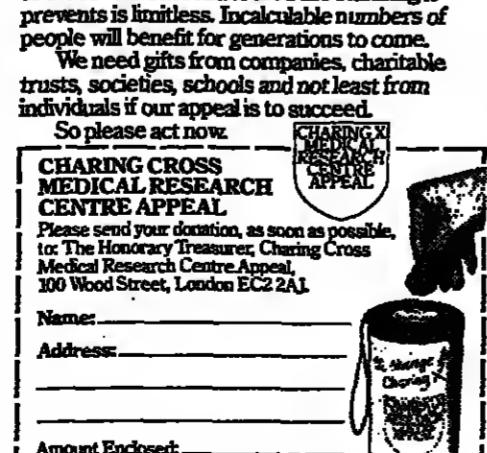
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Kenneth Gooding on the changing shape of the Spanish car group

Seat recovery moves up a gear

VOLKSWAGEN of West Germany is keen to take control of Seat of Spain—but not until the Spanish Government has put the financial affairs of the state-owned car producer in good order.

Not only does Volkswagen want the Seat balance sheet cleaned up, the German group also insists that some of the cash for the next round of Seat's investment programme be made available before control changes hands.

A start has already been made. The Spanish government has written the Seat capital (nominally Pta 36.5bn or \$215m) down to nil. Some Pta 42bn of new capital has been provided. In addition, the state contributed Pta 21bn to help cover Seat's 1983 losses.

Another Pta 45.9bn has been promised for the next few years to cover further restructuring.

Seat's last respite from perennial loss-making was in 1977. Since then it has accumulated losses totalling Pta 160.6bn. That included the peak deficit of Pta 35.78bn for 1983. Last year's loss was also above Pta 35bn.

Since 1981 Seat has had to pay for a rationalisation programme which will reduce its workforce from 31,000 at the end of that year to 20,000 by 1985.

It has also spent about Pta 119bn on new products and tooling, including a family of engines and three cars. Seat's ambition is to "combine Mediterranean style with German quality" so it turned to Porsche in West Germany for engineering help and Ital Design's Sig Giorgio Giugiaro in Italy for styling for the new models; the small Ibiza, the medium-sized Malaga, both introduced already, and the mini Marbella, still to come.

Seat was able to get so much for what, in motor industry terms, was so little outlay because the designers were told the new models should be able to be produced mainly from existing tooling.

The Spanish group was forced to move fast to resuscitate its model range when in 1980 its 30-year association with Fiat of Italy, which had provided technical assistance and took Seat-built Fiat cars for its dealer networks, came to an acrimonious end.

Seat can continue to use existing Fiat components for as long as it wishes, so the Malaga, launched at the recent Barcelona Motor Show is built on the floor pan of the Fiat Ritmo/Strada and the Marbella will use the Fiat Panda floor pan.

Volkswagen moved in to fill the technical-assistance role vacated by Fiat. Unlike the Italian group which had a controlling shareholding, and decided it could not afford to put more money into Seat, VW so far has invested not one Pfennig in the Spanish company.

Cost constraints will ensure that the switch from Fiat-based components to VW-based ones by Seat will be only evolutionary and gradual. By 1988 Seat expects to have spent another Pta 175bn on its next range of models, three new "families."

VW wants to ensure that money is provided up-front by the Spanish government before taking control.

The two sides are also pondering Seat's huge debt of Pta 150bn mostly raised in the Eurodollar market. Last year the group's interest payments were equivalent to 18 per cent of its Pta 200bn revenue compared with the European motor industry average of 3 per cent.

But VW is an enthusiastic suitor because the relationship has already brought benefits to both partners. The Spanish market has been opened up to VW, previously held at bay by high tariff barriers against cars. And Seat's factory at Pamplona has been re-equipped to produce VW Polo, Santana and Passat models and will this year provide the VW dealer network outside Spain with 50,000 Polos.

Car production is cheaper in Spain than in West Germany where it is difficult to make small cars profitably. So Seat hopes to be given the job of producing all VW's Polo requirements when the current model is changed. There is capacity at Pamplona to make 180,000 of them on two shifts and VW's quality-measuring methods show that the Polos being produced in Spain today are at least up to German standards.

Sr Juan Jose Diaz Ruiz, Seat's commercial director, says: "It would be logical for VW to produce all Polos in Spain." The company has some way to go to the 25 per cent share it hopes for.

Sr Diaz Ruiz points out that the importers have carried most of the cost of setting up the European distribution network which enabled Seat last year to sell 81,200 of its own-brand cars and gain a 1 per cent share of the European market (excluding Spain) and 1.5 per cent when Spain was included.

However, Seat itself has put up some money to help importers launch the marque and its products. This cost about \$25m in 1984 and \$16m will be spent this year.

Sr Diaz Ruiz says this form of investment will tell off as investment of the Seat brand grows. "This year we will sell 45,000 cars in Italy, 25,000 in France, 9,000 in Holland, 5,500

in Belgium, so the importers have a volume base and don't need our assistance any more."

He reveals that, even after paying for the launch costs and investment in establishing the Seat name outside Spain, "we still make five times the net profit we would make if we were exporting only to Fiat."

Not everything has gone according to plan for the new Seat management installed three years ago. Some importers did not live up to agreed targets and have already been changed.

In Spain Seat's market share has been falling and its image has suffered from recent difficulties such as various false starts to the launch of the Ibiza and the fact that the visual quality of the first Ibiza models left much to be desired.

The Seat marque market share in 1983 was 22.5 per cent, but fell to 17.1 per cent last year, and was down to only 12 per cent for the first quarter of 1985.

Seat insists that, as its cars are being sold alongside Volkswagen models and the dealers are, Seat's Volkswagen-Andif dealers, the VW-Audi share must also be taken into account. However, while VW has gone from a 1.3 per cent share in 1983 to 5.5 per cent last year and 6.8 per cent in the first quarter of 1985, that still leaves the combined total down from 22.8 per cent in 1983 to 18.9 per cent at the end of the first quarter 1985. The company has some way to go to the 25 per cent share it hopes for.

Sr Diaz Ruiz remains supremely optimistic about the company's production expectations, however. He says: "1985 output should be about \$70,000 cars (up from 296,000 last year) of which about 160,000 would be for the Seat network in Spain, 120,000 for Seat export markets, 50,000 would be built for VW and there would be 40,000 Pandas for Fiat."

Next year Seat hopes to reach capacity-level output of 400,000 cars, including 280,000 Seat and 120,000 with VW badges. Exports next year are targeted to be 130,000 built-up cars plus 20,000 kits, plus 50,000 Pandas for VW.

If Seat achieves that targeted output, it should be profitable in 1987.



Sr Juan Jose Diaz Ruiz: "It would be logical for VW to produce all Polos in Spain."



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c. £30,000

manufacturing or contracting environments is essential as is knowledge of costing systems, cash management and the presentation of capital expenditure appraisals. Candidates should be computer literate and commercially aware. They must be capable of making a creative input at Board level, and be able to demonstrate a track record of so doing.

Please write in confidence, explaining how you meet our client's needs and quoting reference 4960/L, to A.R. Turl, Executive Selection Division, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., 165 Queen Victoria St., Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

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Chief Accountant

Aylesbury

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Candidates should be graduate chartered accountants, preferably aged 35 to 45. They must have the maturity, experience, and leadership qualities required to meet the challenge of this very demanding role which has considerable growth potential. The generous remuneration package will reflect the seniority of the post.

Please write, in confidence, with full career details and quoting reference E2739/L to J.W. Hills, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Executive Selection Division, 165 Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

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MARWICK

Director of Finance

Herts

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The position calls for exceptional management skills, a strong commercial awareness and the drive and ambition to command a full board appointment.

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Group Accountant

London

c. £17,000
+ Car

We seek a young Chartered Accountant to develop and run a diverse accounting arrangement for a small, well-established and growing financial services group. Experience of stockbroking and banking audits is essential, and of banking audits is helpful. The candidate should be ambitious but tactful, and able to keep a small management team. It is likely that the successful candidate will be drawn from a company in a similar field or direct from an accounting firm. Salary depends on qualifications and experience, and prospects are excellent.

Please write with detailed cv to:
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Bracken House, 10 Cannon St
London EC4P 4BY

Finance Manager

The organisation is one of the largest and most successful of its kind in the UK, generating income annually in the region of £10m. There is an increasing demand for its services which are oriented towards a specific sector of the community. Constant review of its affairs puts continuing pressure on improved efficiency and cost effectiveness of all its activities. Subsequent internal re-organisation has led to the creation of the position of Finance Manager.

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Please reply in confidence, giving concise career, salary and personal details to Peg Eva and quoting Ref: ER783.

Arthur Young

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Consultants, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings,

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Internal Audit Manager

Major Financial Services Group
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Schroder Financial Management provides an integrated and comprehensive range of financial services to individuals, partnerships and private companies. We currently employ over 600 staff based in over 20 locations in the United Kingdom.

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The requirement is for a qualified accountant with relevant experience preferably gained in a financial services environment. The nature of the role calls for a high level of communication skills and the ability to interact effectively with senior management within the Group.

In addition to a competitive salary, we offer a substantial range of benefits, which includes a Company car, mortgage subsidy, non contributory pension scheme, and comprehensive relocation assistance.

For further details and/or an application form, please write or telephone:

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For full job description write in confidence to W.T. Agar at JC&P Selection Consultants, 104 Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5FU, showing clearly how you meet our client's requirements, quoting ref 2226/FT. Both men and women may apply.

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GROUP FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

Salary Circa £19,000 + Car

Medium sized, highly profitable, Surrey based group of companies requires a commercially orientated financial controller who will be responsible for all financial and administrative functions reporting to the chairman.

Duties include the control of the financial and management accounting functions, the continued development of information systems and development of the computer facility. Planning and budgeting the group's activities will be an important part of what should develop into a broader role within the group.

Candidates should be qualified accountants with relevant experience, late 20s-30s and proven ability to motivate and communicate at the head of a small team. Prospects are excellent.

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Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

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This is a unique opportunity to join a publicly quoted Group with interests in electrical, electronic and light engineering markets. As part of its commitment to further growth, the Group is actively seeking new acquisitions and is looking to recruit a dynamic executive of the highest calibre to identify potential companies and undertake detailed feasibility studies.

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The starting salary is negotiable together with an excellent fringe benefits package.

Please write or telephone for an application form or send detailed CV to R.H. Southwell at the address below, quoting ref AAAA/8339/FT on both letter and envelope. No details are divulged to clients without prior permission.

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London c.£18,000 + car

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The man or woman we are seeking is a qualified accountant or company secretary with a background of sound professional or commercial experience. In the medium term there may be an opportunity to join the board and to participate in profits or equity.

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Finance Director

North Surrey

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company background. Experience in a multi-branch organisation would be particularly relevant. Your self-motivation and positive personal presence will ideally be combined with some computer systems knowledge and previous exposure to contract negotiation. In addition to the excellent salary, a generous benefits package is offered, including future participation in the company's profit-sharing scheme. Candidates should write to Don Day FCA, Executive Division, enclosing a comprehensive c.v., quoting reference 253, at 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.



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Financial Controller

Central London

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Financial Director & Company Secretary

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Candidates, aged ideally 35 to 45, will be professionally qualified. They should have experience at Financial Controller level in a small (c £5 million turnover) manufacturing/contracting engineering company and must have a good grasp of standard costing. The ability to deal with the financial aspects of detailed engineering tenders is a prerequisite.

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Location: North Manchester.

Applicants should write with full c.v. quoting ref. AR/068, to: March Personnel Services, 33 King Street, Manchester M2 6AA.



PERSONNEL SERVICES

Group Financial Controller

Director Designate

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The Clarke Group of Companies, the Midlands-based house-building, construction and property development group, needs a Financial Controller to be responsible for all accounting, financial and computer functions of the Group.

The task is to control a team of 25 staff, including chartered accountants and computer personnel and to develop the full range of computerised management systems for the group.

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Please send a full c.v. to Barry Cowlin, quoting ref. no. A1230, or telephone for an application form.

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Blundells, Torrington Avenue,
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Specific areas of responsibility will include reporting on effectiveness and efficiency of all financial and administrative systems, developing computer-based internal audit methods and playing a key role in the design and implementation of new systems.

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You are likely to be aged 28-33, although age is not a barrier for exceptional candidates.

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Accountancy Appointments

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The department acts as a training ground for future line managers and therefore candidates should already have gained audit experience in a large organisation, be able to communicate effectively at all levels and possess a perceptive business mind.

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Applicants, ideally in their mid 30s, must be graduate Chartered Accountants with an impressive career profile to date. Please write, enclosing a career/salary history and daytime telephone number to David Hogg FCA, quoting reference I/2302.

EMA Management Personnel Ltd,
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Candidates should send a C.V. to Anne Campbell (reference A21), Spicer and Pegler Associates, Executive Selection, St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 6BZ.

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C. London

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The position demands an outstanding individual who can combine technical competence with imagination, has well developed commercial instincts and above all a determination to achieve agreed business objectives.

Longer term career prospects are excellent and not necessarily limited to the finance area. Relocation expenses where appropriate will be met.

Contact Patrick Donnelly on 01-222-5169 quoting reference FT/70.

tfi

The Finance Index
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INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF COMPANIES

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Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

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Applicant must have a minimum of 5 years experience in Data Processing with at least 2 years on a Project Leader's capacity particularly in Banking systems. Experience in Retail Banking and ATM's is preferable.

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Applicant must have a minimum of 5 years experience in Data Processing

with at least 2 years at a Project Leader's level.

Data Base Administrator (DBA)

To be responsible for maintaining the integrity of the Banks data and to see that it is used in the most efficient and secured way.

Applicant must have a minimum of 5 years experience in Data Processing with at least 2 years in Data Base Administration.

Telecommunications Analyst (TA)

To provide an effective telecommunication network to enable the Bank to provide the service to its customers.

Applicant must have experience in handling and designing telecommunications network.

Systems Analysts/Programmers (SA/P)

To develop and implement new computerised systems.

Applicants must have 5 years experience in Data Processing with at least 2 years as Section Leader

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THE ARTS

Opera/Max Loppert

Glyndebourne's first Carmen

A Glyndebourne *Carmen* at last! How long it has been needed and wanted. Sitting through the inevitable big-house dilutions (especially those saddled with Guraud's wretched recitations), one has hungered so often for the pithy opéra-comique treatment, in a theatre of the proper size, which this festival would seem heaven-sent to provide. The new show (sponsored by Citicorp Bank) is conducted by Bernard Haitink, produced by Peter Hall, and has Maria Ewing in the title role. Though not everything came into focus in Tuesday's opening performance, the occasion lived up to a gratifying number of high expectations.

The Glyndebourne benefit that first insists on being noted is musical. Sizet's score sounds miraculous in this theatre. Dry acoustics do no harm to the scoring—the reverse, indeed, for the removal of all additive gloss, of what Martin Cooper has called the "smart, velvety, *tertessico*" style of *Carmen* conducting à la Karajan, is crucial to Haitink's approach. Its absence, in combination with the brightness and pungency of the colours, makes for one of the abiding joys of the experience.

Conductor and orchestra (the PLO on splendid form) bring to the music a sense of ebullient enthusiasm that impresses itself on almost every corner of the text. The first two acts, sprung from rhythmic movement urgent without ever being hard-driven, moved with a near-faultless command of pace. The mesh of dialogue and song was as seamless as could be hoped for on a major first night with a cast

largely non-French; and no doubt it will become ever better as everyone relaxes into the style. In any case, spoken messages given absolutely complete in another of the performance's strengths. No amount of over-careful delivery could spoil their pleasures: we really do know less about the opera without them.

In the trickier third act there were blunts of mid-scene flagging. Haitink's appreciation of the broad stretches of candid lyricism contained in Micaela's air is as genuine as his delight in the more obviously remarkable passages that surround them, but the two styles never, not yet, exactly matched. On the whole, though, this already ranks with Abbado's Edinburgh Festival *Carmen* (another important small-theatre discovery) as music-making of ear-cleansing freshness and modesty in evoking the exact nature of Bizet's genius.

For the most part, the stage direction chimes wonderfully well with the musical. Sir Peter and his designer, John Burn, appear to have gone back to 19th century French tradition for the look and feel of their scenes—in spirit if not in actual stylistic recreation. This is most noticeable in the tavern, a shadowy moorish hideaway, den and bawls all at once. Candle-light flickers (the suggestion of footlights is most cunningly evoked). The action can be played out with easy intimacy and economy.

The impress of past theatrical styles, and of such artists as Daliacroux and Gérault on the design, does not inhibit the unforced naturalness that is a mark of Hall opera production



Maria Ewing as Carmen

at its best. Throughout, with seize all its opportunities: only the possible exception of the mountain scene (picturesque features here appear to cramp movement), the levels of ordinary behaviour, and higher operatic intensities have been placed and joined with a subtlety as painful as it is underdemonstrative. On Tuesday I felt that the cast had yet to

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FINANCIAL TIMES

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Thursday May 23 1985

Soft option for Israel

CRISIS package after crisis package has signally failed to put a lasting halt to hyperinflation in Israel. That experience alone justifies scepticism about the latest measures announced on Sunday. The Minister of Finance himself seems to share that feelings. He said openly that political considerations had prevented the Government from taking measures as drastic as would have liked.

In a democracy such as Israel, governments always must pay regard to the interests and wishes of their electorates. But a failure to give leadership will eventually bring down any government or cause serious harm to the country. Mr Simon Peres and his cabinet know that as well as anybody else. Why then are they unwilling to act with the determination that they know is necessary?

The simple answer is "Uncle Sam". Governments in Israel know from experience that when things threaten to get out of hand the Administration in Washington will help. This year Israel has had "routine" help of \$2.6bn for military ends and to steady the balance of payments. In order to deal with the latest economic crisis, the U.S. Administration has asked Congress for another \$1.5bn in emergency aid for this year and next.

Powerful friends

As long as it knows that it will always be bailed out by the Americans, an Israeli government does not have a convincing reason for being too tough with its electorate. The question is whether U.S. generosity is assured for ever.

Tel Aviv's negotiating position is undoubtedly strong. Israel is the mainstay of U.S. policy in the Middle East and has many powerful friends in America. Yet there have been signs of impatience from Washington. Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has asked for economic reforms to put Israel's house in order. He has sent out two leading economists, Professors Herbert Stein and Stanley Fischer, to make recommendations, some but only some of which Mr Peres has accepted.

What Mr Peres has refused to do is to put through a sharp devaluation of the shekel and

to abolish the indexing of wages to the cost of living index which is intended to take the sting out of inflation. On a broader plane, he as refused to combat inflation at the risk of creating unemployment.

This attitude almost inevitably leads to half measures. Thus the increases in indirect taxes to restrain excessive private consumption will be partly, or even wholly, nullified by the indexation of wages.

Amoco has particular reason to be cheerful about Mr Pickens' setback, since the company has been regarded by some as a potential, if difficult target for the Texan oil raider. But it can be safely assumed that Mr Koeller was not alone in his reaction to the news from Delaware.

One week later, the U.S. oil industry is still hopeful that the 18 month campaign by Mr Pickens to harass and dismember the industry is indeed at an end. Business is unable or unwilling to invest in productive capacity. One reason is that index-linked financial instruments offer a more assured return than money invested at risk. The effects are not shown in the unemployment figures, but hidden unemployment is widespread.

Mr Peres and his Cabinet have acted upon two other proposals from the American experts. They are planning to adopt legislation forbidding government departments to overspend their estimates. Spending control has been lax in the past—hardly surprising when the inflation rate has not dropped below 100 per cent in any year of the 1980s. The effectiveness of the new measure may be doubted: old habits die hard.

More promisingly, the power of the Government to order the central bank to print money with which to cover budget deficits is to be phased out over three years. The step is timid, but is in the right direction. Monetary control is an essential instrument for the control of inflation. But the creation of an instrument designed to help with monetary control is not by itself enough: there needs to be a readiness to use it.

The implication is that, even with the new crisis package adopted, Israel has barely begun to tackle the twin problems of inflation and of external deficits, both of which stem from private consumption that is excessive even after a modest fall last year. Israel has not abandoned the soft option.

Reforming the schools

ONE OF the main reasons for Britain's poor industrial performance is the inadequacy of the country's education and training systems. Differences in productivity between comparable British and German plants stem in large measure from differences in the vocational qualifications of the workforce, particularly at the foreman and operator level. The Government might claim that, with the expansion of the Youth Training Scheme, it is taking steps to overcome this problem. But even if the YTS succeeds in bringing about a decisive improvement in the quality of training, which is far from certain, an even bigger weakness is evident at the pre-training stage—in the schools.

A study of schooling standards in England and Germany, published in today's *National Economic Review*, makes it clear that, for the excellence of the English system in catering for the most scholarly pupils it does a very poor job indeed for people at best, average academic ability. It is here that German arrangements are so clearly superior, with important consequences for the quality of the workforce. Although there is much agonising in government and elsewhere about the deficiencies of Britain's schools, there is not much sign yet of a real determination to remedy this state of affairs.

System imbalance

It is not that Germany devotes any more resources to its schools than the UK. There is not much difference in pupil-teacher ratios and the proportion of GDP absorbed by education seems to be lower in Germany. The point is that the schools are better organised and more sharply focused towards clear objectives. The German system provides a broader curriculum, combined with significantly higher levels of mathematical attainment for a greater proportion of pupils than does the English system. Differences are particularly marked at the lower half of the academic ranking. The German schools also provide more pre-vocational instruction and this has a definite commercial and industrial emphasis.

The study underlines the imbalance of the English system between the top and the bottom ends of the academic range. Partly because of exceptionally early specialisation

the top performers reach standards not matched in Germany or in any other advanced country. But this has been bought at a heavy cost among the bulk of the population which cannot aspire to the academic heights.

Only about a tenth of all pupils in Germany leave school without a certificate attesting to the satisfactory completion of their studies covering a broad range of basic subjects. In England, the bottom 40 per cent have so far been excluded, as a matter of policy, from the provision of an examined qualification which caters for their potential level of attainment; incentives to work hard in the final year are consequently low. Moreover, German pupils need to achieve satisfactory marks calculated in relation to all subjects; stricter requirements are laid down for core subjects including mathematics. No certificates are awarded for single subjects as they are in England.

National curriculum

The study refers to the development, over a long period, of an intermediate system of schooling in Germany, the Real-schule, with an orientation towards scientific, technical and business requirements, deliberately contrasting with the older, practical school curriculum. In England, the attempt to graft technical subjects onto the traditional curriculum has been far less successful. The resulting compromise on educational values continues to be heavily biased towards the minority of university entrants.

One of the obvious gaps in England is the lack of a nationally prescribed curriculum. This is part of a more fundamental doubt about the decentralisation of the schools system. The attempt to give a stronger steer from the centre, as reflected in the recent White Paper, did not look anywhere near enough to make the necessary improvements. As the National Institute rightly concludes, the immediate task is to raise the numerical skills of the majority of schoolchildren and to encourage practical education. There is a need for more objective testing of the attainment of individual pupils and for national agreement on core standards for 16-year-olds and at lower ages. The fact that the size of the school population is declining provides an opportunity to start on the process of reform.

Pace-maker

General Dynamics' decision to bid against STC Pace from rival TRW to succeed David S. Lewis in the hot spot as chairman of the largest U.S. defence contractor, looks a shrewd move. Pace, a 63-year-old aero-

More moves in store?

Bob Thornton deserves a knighthood for getting his share price as high as it is. If he actually managed to sell Debenhams for more than £400m, he should probably have a peerage." That was the view of another department store chief, not far down Oxford Street from Thornton's head office, last week.

Thornton had just floated the idea that he would cap any ordinary bid with a 2000m management buyout—but by far the largest figure of its kind yet mooted in Britain.

And last week's denial from Burton group had some people in the market thinking that Debenhams had finally escaped. For a few minutes, the share price dived.

But yesterday Burton was back again, with Sir Terence Conran—former Debenhams' suitor—in support, apparently throwing in the full force of Habitat's style and ideas machine from the outset for an option to take up to 20 per cent of Debenhams' equity later this year.

Though Thornton was saying nothing definite about his buyout plans yesterday, it may still be premature to tip Debenhams as the sitting target implied by Warburg's choice of "duck" as its code name for the store a few weeks back.

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OIL'S UNCERTAIN FUTURE

The art of living dangerously

By Ian Hargreaves

THE PICKENS EFFECT ON WALL STREET

	Share price end Sep 1983	Share price as % of asset value†	\$ Asset value†	Share price 21/5/1985	Share price as % of asset value
EXXON	38½	47	77.70	52½	68
MOBIL	31	35	88.35	31	35
TEXACO	38	26	99.85	37½	37
CHEVRON	35½	33	108.85	35½	32
AMOCO	48	45	108.45	65½	68
ARCO	45½	38	122.40	61½	58
SOCIO	51½	51	101.85	48½	48
BP	26½	47	56.05	27½	38
ROYAL DUTCH SHELL	46½	37	119.25	58½	58
UNOCAL	30	38	76.45	35½	47
PHILLIPS	24½	44	76.95	38½	58

† end 1983 figures. Source: J. S. HEROLD/F.T.

raise their share values, by buying large quantities of their stock.

Whether Mr Pickens is on his way to Elba, however, may not be clear for some time. Certainly the Delaware decision is a major blow. Coming on top of earlier blocks on the flow of bank funds to Pickens-type raiders, along with poison pills and other anti-greenmailers.

On the other hand, Mr Pickens is nothing if not resourceful. And the very fact that oil shares are seen to be heading for another plunge, could yet give new life to his essential cause. This is that so long as oil company managers fail to achieve a stock market valuation for their companies equivalent to the worth of their assets, radical ways will be found to transfer these asset values to shareholders.

As the table shows, there has been a significant narrowing of the gap between market capitalisation and asset valuation as anticipated," said Mr William Kieschnick, chief executive of Arco, three weeks ago. The moves reflect Arco's assumption of lower crude prices in the years ahead, continued serious overcapacity in downstream operations and the need to keep the shareholders happy by raising returns per share.

Oil industry managements, however, are keen to play down the Pickens factor. They point to restructuring which began before the world had even heard of Mr Pickens—Texaco's phased withdrawal from the petro market in 19 states, for example, began five years ago.

Where Mr Pickens has not been a first cause of change, he has been an important catalyst. No one can contest the fact that the oil industry today is a vastly different creature from the one which bounded cash-rich from the price shock of the Iranian Revolution in 1979.

"We were all on a drunken binge, so we had to stop drinking," says Dr Phil Oxley, president of

Tenneco's exploration and production operations.

That hinge, following so soon after the excesses which also followed the 1973-74 oil shock, landed the industry with five major problems:

● Expensive investments in businesses, from department stores to office equipment, which the oil companies proved incapable of managing effectively.

● Equally expensive invest-

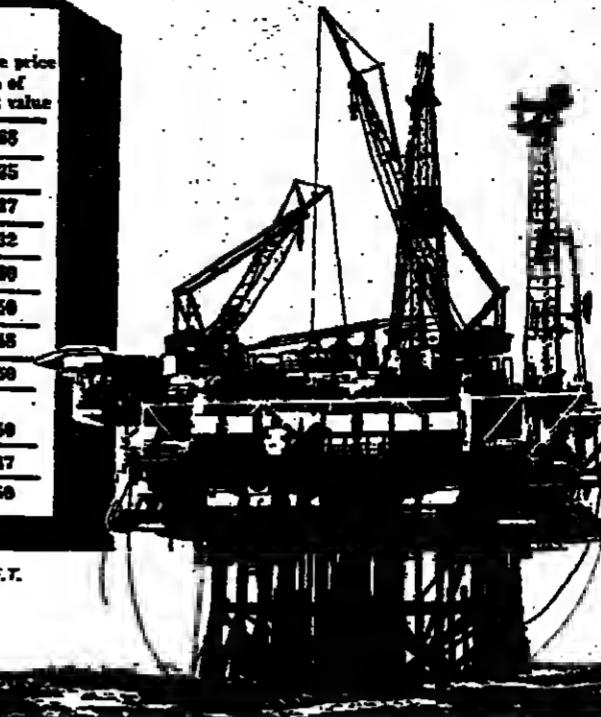
ments in manning which were made at the top of the commodity boom. Four years of depression have followed, creating huge losses especially for companies with heavy exposure to copper, such as Sohio.

● A race into "synthetic crude" operations, based on forecasts of \$30 a barrel oil. Almost all of these projects are now abandoned.

● A drilling boom which by 1981 had over 4,500 rigs at work in the U.S. alone. Drilling costs soared to \$108 per foot. Today, 1,800 rigs are working, costs are down to \$70 per foot and parts of the U.S. oil supply industry are on the verge of collapse.

● Persistent and so far unshakable overcapacity in marketing and refining as investments planned in the good years came on stream in a contracting market in the early 1980s.

These conditions have bred



Philip Thompson

its 25 refineries in the U.S. and Europe and to get rid of most of its tankers. It has also transformed its petrol marketing structure by taking action—either significantly expanding or pulling out of activities in areas where it felt its market share was too low.

All companies predict a further shakeout of capacity in the next three or four years, although it is rarer for them to acknowledge the dangers posed by selling this plant to independent operators, capable of buying spot gasoline on depressed spot markets and using it to undercut the integrated companies.

Mobil has brought in investment bankers Goldman Sachs to help with this process and has just announced that it will sell (at the cost of a \$300m

write-off) Montgomery Ward, the department store chain, it bought for \$1.6bn eight years ago.

Exxon has done the same with its office equipment division and most of the mining divisions have also been pared right back or sold. Arco is selling Anaconda and Amoco is spinning off its shareholders its losing mining interests.

This retrenchment is only the most superficial of the changes going on inside the large oil companies. They are also shedding people. Exxon's payroll has fallen by 16 per cent in four years and overhauling the management of their mainline businesses.

The most serious problems are downstream, where Texaco, in the last three years, has lost \$80m on refining, marketing and tankers. The company's answer has been to close 10 of

the task, though challenging should be a familiar one. Last November, TRW told the U.S. Defense Department and several contractors that it had overcharged them several million dollars because of "irregularities" in its cost-estimating procedures discovered during an internal investigation.

Apart from polishing General Dynamics' tarnished public image, Pace also has to establish a working relationship with the powerful Crown family which, under 88-year-old Col Henry Crown, holds a 23 per cent stake in the maker of F-16 fighters, M1 tanks, cruise missiles and Trident nuclear subs.

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After quitting the military, Pace joined TRW in 1954 as a sales manager but climbed quickly to president and chief operating officer in 1977, second only to TRW's effervescent chairman, Rubin Mettier.

In January, as part of an orderly succession at the Cleveland-based company, Pace moved to vice-chairman, marking way for 47-year-old Joseph T. Gorman to become president.

At General Dynamics his first job before moving into Lewis's large shoes, will be to straighten out the overhead accounting and contract procedures.

Systems which have got the St Louis group into trouble with Pentagon auditors and Congressional investigators.

Pace, a 63-year-old aero-

think that we were no longer on the map," he said. "I thought I could reaffirm and demonstrate in New York that we were as alive, as full of energy and will, as the English half of the family."

Before an audience that included Lord Weinstein, Lord Bessborough and Lord Zuckerman, Baron de Rothschild said that the investment bank recently founded in France by his son, David, would in a year or two become a Rothschild institution... probably known as Rothschild Frères... and marking the rebirth of the family's banking presence.

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Their guests will be Rocco Forte, chief executive of House Forte, and his sister, Olga.

The dinner will be as sumptuous as one would expect for a meeting of such culinary dynasties. A bottle of 1847 vintage madeira will be opened for starters and the courses will include a specially marinated porterhouse steak, one of Pigeche's traditional dishes.

ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT

UK inflation: a jagged plateau

By Samuel Brittan

THE COURSE of inflation, like the course of true love, never did run smooth. The basic trend line is subject to all sorts of oscillations, especially when it is measured by the UK Retail Prices Index.

The Treasury's Budget forecast envisaged the RPI monthly rate of increase rising from 5 per cent last January to 6 per cent in the "second quarter" of this year, but falling back to 5 per cent by the fourth quarter and 4 per cent by mid-1986.

Inflation still seems likely to trace out a curve of the shape the Treasury indicated, but rising to a higher altitude at the top of the bulge. The April RPI Index was 6.9 per cent and the year's projection for the rate of increase is likely to go above 7 per cent before it reaches its peak at the end of the second quarter or in July.

There are two main reasons for the bulge: the rise in mortgage rates and the depreciation of sterling between the end of 1983 and the beginning of 1985. The two are of course connected as interest rates were raised in large part to protect the pound.

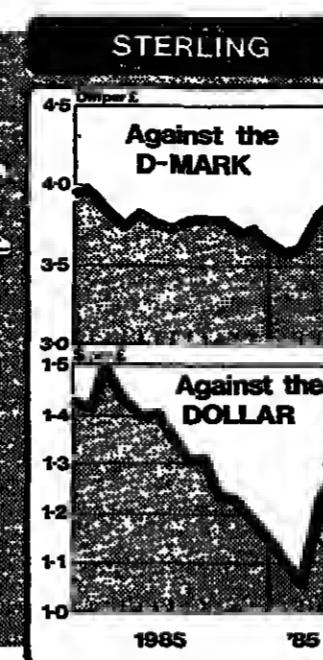
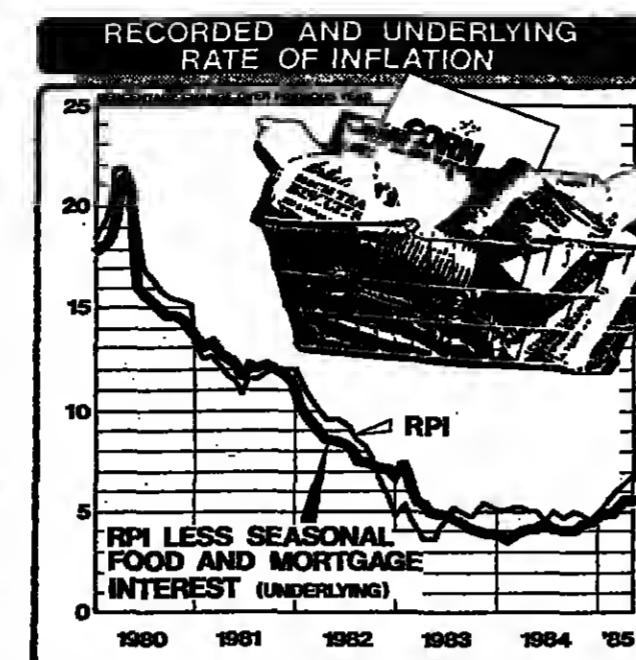
Both these factors are by their nature temporary. Any increase in mortgage rates to a higher level exerts a once-for-all upward jerk on the index. The effect is once-for-all, because even if mortgage rates never fall again, the effect on recorded inflation is only visible during the period in which the rise takes place.

By August, when the 12-monthly comparison will already be with a period of higher mortgage rates, the measured "inflation rate" will fall back.

With sterling, the lags are less precise. At present the inflation rate reflects the effects of sterling's earlier depreciation. Not only will these work themselves out; but over the coming months and into 1985, the recent sterling recovery will be exerting a restraining influence.

The chart shows the effect on the RPI of removing both mortgage interest and seasonal foodstuffs. This adjusted index has turned out one of the best available indicators of underlying inflation. In practice superior to more sophisticated adjustments.

As one would expect, the fall



in inflation in 1981-83 was gentler and more protracted on this index than on the crude RPI. Similarly, the recent rise looks more moderate. But it does not eliminate it altogether. The adjusted index shows inflation drifting up from 4 to 4½ per cent in the course of 1984 and reaching 5.6 per cent in April.

The movement of this index together with the more rapid than usual rises in output and profits, and the buoyancy of some financial indicators (house prices) — has put a different gloss on the emergency increases in interest rates this winter and the Chancellor's refusal to make any concessions in the size of his borrowing requirement in the Budget. These now seem more justified than they did at the time as a response to real inflationary danger, and not just a stock response to a sterling crisis.

Even if one withholds judgment on the details of monetary policy, recent events show how easily inflation can still be triggered off in an open economy like Britain, or France with no strong tradition of stable prices. Even if, in their heart of hearts, some Ministers were prepared to settle for a stable 4 or 5 per cent inflation rate, they must still be aware of their top priority were to get inflation down further, with "zero" on the far horizon.

The movement of demand is clearly somewhat more expansionary than the Government hoped for at the time of the Budget. Nominal GDP looks like growing by 9 to 10 per cent in 1985. While this contains a 1½ per cent element of catch-up from the miners' strike, it is still larger than the 8½ per cent officially projected; about a third of the difference might be higher output and two-thirds inflation.

Indeed, the effect on recorded inflation of the next round of wage settlements of an early further reduction in interest rates — through bringing forward a mortgage rate cut — is far more important than any extremely marginal impact such a reduction would have on Sterling.

The Treasury has not yet revised its Budget forecasts. The movement of sterling is, of course, reflected in both the crude and adjusted RPI figures. Import prices rose by nearly 13½ per cent in the first quarter of 1985, over the same quarter of 1984, with the same percentage increase of just over 7 per cent in the first half of 1984.

The sterling depreciation came through into import prices, and perhaps also into the prices of domestic producers competing with imports, more

strongly than the official forecasters expected.

As time goes on, the recent improvement in sterling should be reflected in import prices and thus in the general price level. Sterling has appreciated over half its 1984-85 losses against the dollar and virtually the whole of them against the D-Mark, which is ultimately more important.

Thus, barring unforeseen events of fate, there is every reason to expect the crude inflation rate to fall back in line with a mortgage rate cut — far more important than any extremely marginal impact such a reduction would have on Sterling.

If the underlying productivity growth is put at 2½ per cent per annum — an estimate which assumes quite a lot of upward revision — then labour costs will be rising at roughly 5 per cent. (The downward impact of the abolition of the National Insurance Surcharge will soon

be removed).

Recorded inflation is at present much higher than "core" inflation because of rising import prices. It is slightly higher over the longer haul because of inflation in wages, administered prices and other additions. It is thus difficult to see a breakthrough in inflation rates of below 5 per cent unless productivity proves to be growing much faster than even the most optimistic of current estimates (which are well up to its long-term average growth before the

six months has been 11 per cent, rather than the 15.5 per cent officially shown. But they say their even lower figure gives an exaggerated idea of inflationary pressures because higher real interest rates on bank deposits have made them more attractive as a savings medium.

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UK rates 'likely to stay at high level'

By Max Wilkinson in London

BRITISH interest rates are likely to remain close to present high levels for some time, because of excessive growth of the money supply, a senior Bank of England official said yesterday.

Mr Tony Coley, assistant director of the Bank, told a parliamentary committee that part of the reason for the 4½ percentage point rise in interest rates in January was that, in terms of the money supply objectives, "the situation was not under control."

The rise in rates was intended to bring monetary growth back on target, but he said: "We have not yet got any convincing evidence that that has been achieved."

He added: "Until we have got more convincing evidence that domestic monetary conditions have been brought back under control, we are bound to be rather reserved about the pace at which interest rates might come down."

This was the strongest statement yet of the authorities' concern about the implications of the latest money supply figures published last week. They showed that sterling M3, the broad measure of money which includes bank deposits, rose at an annual rate of 19 per cent in the three months to April, more than twice the maximum permitted increase for the year as a whole.

Mr Coley was giving evidence to a Treasury and Civil Service sub-committee on the subject of the European Monetary System.

He said the authorities' policy response to the monetary expansion and steep fall of the exchange rate in January might not have needed to be so severe if the pound had been in the exchange rate mechanism (ERM) of the EMS.

On the "most optimistic" assumption that the markets had believed the authorities were determined to keep sterling within a permitted band in the ERM, he thought the rise in interest rates "might not have needed to be so large."

The rise would probably have come earlier, and could have been reversed sooner, he said.

Earlier, Mr Michael Balfour, also an assistant director at the Bank, told the committee that he thought the pound was overvalued against the D-Mark at the present rate of DM 3.9.

However, in answers to questions he pointed out that sterling had moved by about 10 per cent against the German currency since the beginning of the year. He did not necessarily believe sterling had been overvalued at its lowest rate of around DM 3.50.

Economic Viewpoint, Page 27

Strasbourg MPs win key judgment

Continued from Page 1

al period of 12 years after its signature in 1957, the court said.

The court did not adopt the proposal of the Dutch Government that it should transpose freedom of transport services from a Treaty objective into directly applicable law, enforceable in national courts. It has, therefore, stopped short of giving the European Parliament legislative powers by the back door.

Yesterday's judgment is moral victory for the European Parliament but impossible to enforce. The court has been told that it is its duty to agree but it can hardly be made to do so.

The court remains free to deal with most of the 14 pending specific transport policy proposals of the Commission as it pleases.

The Commission's proposals of two "observation systems," one for the cross-border movement of goods by road, rail and inland waterways within the Community and the other for traffic with certain third countries, can now be written off as total losses.

Britain releases Thai aid in bid to win bus deal

By CHRISTIAN TYLER, TRADE EDITOR, IN LONDON

BRITISH ministers have approved the release of aid money to Thailand to help a UK consortium led by Leyland Bus to clinch a £365m (\$464m) contract in Bangkok.

The Thais have been told that Britain will match an offer made unexpectedly last month by Mr Fried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, in support of rival bidders Van Hool, an early front-runner for the big project.

It is approved by the Thai Cabinet and successfully negotiated, the deal would be one of the biggest export orders ever won by British companies.

The Belgian offer is reported to be an interest-free loan of more than BFr 1bn (\$16.4m) at current rates, plus an aid grant for training purposes of BFr 300m.

Early in the bidding the countries with manufacturers represented in the race agreed not to offer aid to help the exporters. Belgium's breaking of ranks allowed Britain to follow suit without infringing its declared policy of matching, but not initiating, soft finance for overseas projects.

The decision, possibly taken at Cabinet level, could remove one of

the remaining hurdles that the British consortium must clear before the contract is signed to reorganise and re-equip Bangkok's overstretched bus service.

Among the hurdles are the need for a Thai Government guarantee to underpin an internationally syndicated loan to finance the much-needed Bangkok Mass Transit Authority.

It is approved by the Thai Cabinet and successfully negotiated, the deal would be one of the biggest export orders ever won by British companies.

Mr Paul Channon, Britain's Trade Minister, is planning to visit Thailand at the end of next month plus an aid grant for training purposes of BFr 300m.

Civil servants in London were at pains yesterday to maintain that Britain was acting in self-defence by dipping into the aid budget for Thailand.

One senior official said it was a clear case of British companies winning a race on merit and then being "undeterred by predatory financing."

Officials seemed anxious to demonstrate that Britain was playing by the book, in the wake of strong ministerial criticism of Japan for offering soft loans to Turkey for building of a second Bosphorus bridge.

Informal rules of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development say that aid is only 25 per cent of the cost of the project. In the case of the Bangkok buses that would imply a far bigger grant than Belgium and Britain are offering.

But one view taken in London is that the 25 per cent rule can no longer hold when one party has already broken the rules of the game.

The British consortium consists of Leyland Bus, part of BL's Land Rover-Leyland commercial vehicles division; the National Bus Company, also state-owned; and MVA Coms.

Its proposal is to supply 4,500 buses, including 1,850 double-deckers, build 24 bus depots and provide training and management reorganisation.

Oral defends Bosphorus decision, Page 5

Volvo plans to sell its shares over the post office counter

By KEVIN DONE, NORDIC CORRESPONDENT, IN GOTENBURG

VOVLO is to take the unprecedented step of promoting the sale of its shares across the counter at Sweden's 2,200 post offices as well as 2,700 rural postmen selling Volvo shares."

The group is already the most widely owned Swedish corporation with around 180,000 shareholders, but the total has stagnated in recent years and the group is anxious to promote the Volvo stock as a "people's share" in Sweden.

Mr Pehr Gyllenhammar, Volvo's chairman, said the new system would be cheaper for the investor than buying shares through a bank or a broker, especially in small amounts.

"I have always said it would be good to be able to buy Volvo shares at the corner tobacconist," said Mr Gyllenhammar. "People bet on the

commission on amounts invested under SKr 2,000 and 1 per cent above this level.

Once the initial application and the share purchase is made, the postal investor will receive a share ownership receipt and account number.

Shares purchases will be made on a monthly basis through the stock exchange by PRBanken. The bank will administer dividend payments, new share issues and similar matters for shareholders.

Cash from the sale of shares can be received immediately across the counter or from rural postmen.

Mr Bertil Zachrisson, head of the post office service, said the new system would make owning shares as easy as saving in a bank account.

British stores group faces £492m bid

Continued from Page 1

cash for every five ordinary Debenhams' shares. The new shares represent 31.8 per cent of Burton's expanded share capital. Burton owns a 0.7 per cent stake in Debenhams, while Habitat/Mothercare, advised by Morgan Grenfell, does not own any Debenhams' shares.

Burton has been in talks for three weeks with Habitat/Mothercare which, itself, tried to reach an agreed merger with Debenhams in January. Last week, however, Burton said it did not believe that the stores group was worth its then market capitalisation of £450m.

The apparent discrepancy between that statement to the Stock Exchange and yesterday's bid was defended by Burton's advisers, S.G. Warburg. Mr Derek Higgs, a Warburg director, said that the precise nature of Habitat/Mothercare's involvement was only agreed early yesterday morning.

Mr Ralph Halpern, Burton's chairman, and Sir Terence Conran, chairman of Habitat/Mothercare, said their groups enjoyed complementary styles in fashion that might transform Debenhams' stores.

Both Sir Terence and Mr Halpern said they intended to co-operate with Harris Queensway, the electricals and furnishing retailer, which occupies store space under a joint venture with Debenhams.

Harris Queensway said it had no intention of becoming involved in the bid battle. "We are not department store people, we are specialist retailers," said Mr Peter Davis, the deputy chairman. "I am satisfied that our joint venture companies are well protected." Harris Queensway shares closed last night at 238p, up 12p on the day.

Continued from Page 1

• *FT estimate*
Excluding Richard Shops

Burton group

Ohio clears takeover of thrifths

By Terry Dodsworth in New York

THE OHIO legislature has finally cleared the way to allow two of the large New York banking groups to take over ailing thrift institutions in the state, thus effectively bringing the crisis in the region's savings bank industry to an end.

The Senate passed a bill allowing the entry of Chemical Bank and Chase Manhattan to the local market only by a wafer-thin 17-16 vote.

Intense pressure was brought on legislators by depositors in the Ohio thrifts who were alarmed by a previous senate decision against the New York banks.

As a result of the decision, Chemical will acquire Home State Savings and Loan of Cincinnati, the savings bank at the centre of the crisis which led to the closure of thrifths across the state for several days in March. The state will provide up to \$125.3m to liquidate the takeover by meeting losses.

Chase has already purchased two thrifths and has agreed to acquire another four.

Both the New York banks will be allowed to turn the thrifths they have acquired into fully fledged commercial banks. As a result they have gained entry to a market which has excluded banks from outside the state in the past.

Chemical is to reopen all 33 of Home State's branches.

• *Renter adds:* Chemical Bank named Mr William Duncan, formerly senior vice-president in charge of worldwide consumer lending, to the post of president of the newly formed Chemical Bank Ohio unit.

Continued from Page 1

names will continue to serve our country, its allies and other customers.

Key events leading up to yesterday's developments included:

• February 28: David S. Lewis, General Dynamics' chairman, goes face to face with some of the company's critics in a fiery congressional hearing. Claims the company is being "badly maligned by forces beyond our control." Says the company is not guilty of any wrongdoing.

• March 5: Caspar Weinberger, U.S. Defence Secretary, suspends all administrative payments to GD as part of scheme to recoup the al-

Trade and inflation setback for Paris

By David Housego in Paris

THE FRENCH Government's claims of success for its austerity measures are being put under strain by the continuing run of poor trade and inflation figures.

The announcement that the seasonally adjusted trade deficit for April rose to FFr 4.2bn (\$446m), gives a cumulative deficit for the first four months of FFr 15.1bn. This compares with a revised deficit of FFr 25.1bn for 1984 and a government objective of bringing the trade account back into balance by the end of this year. Unofficial forecasts for the current account, which the Government had hoped would be for April rose to FFr 4.2bn (\$446m), gives a cumulative deficit for the first four months of FFr 15.1bn. This compares with a revised deficit of FFr 25.1bn for 1984 and a government objective of bringing the trade account back into balance by the end of this year. Unofficial forecasts for the current account, which the Government had hoped would be for April rose to FFr 4.2bn (\$446m), gives a cumulative deficit for the first four months of FFr 15.1bn. 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SECTION II - COMPANIES & CAPITAL MARKETS

FINANCIAL TIMES

Thursday May 23 1985

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WestLB starts year strongly

By John Davies in Frankfurt

WESTDEUTSCHE Landesbank (WestLB), West Germany's largest publicly owned bank, expects its operating earnings to provide another strong performance this year.

It also believes it will no longer be burdened by losses and risks at Deutsche Anlagen-Leasing (DAL), the troubled leasing concern in which it is the largest single shareholder.

WestLB began this year strongly with its group operating profits, including the result of trading on its own account, reaching DM 314m (\$164m) in the first quarter, up 10 per cent on the same period last year.

Herz Friedel Neuber, the chief executive, said that even on a cautious assessment of interest rates and economic trends, operating profits this year should be very close to the high results of the last two years.

WestLB made group operating profits of DM 1.22bn last year, compared with DM 1.4bn in 1983, but again omitted a dividend because of high provisions for risks. The group's risk provisions and write-offs amounted to DM 1.1bn last year, up from DM 1.2bn in 1983.

The bank last paid a dividend to its shareholders - the state government, savings banks and other public authorities in North Rhine-Westphalia - on its 1979 results.

Herr Neuber said that WestLB's total risk provisions for DAL, including new provisions made last year, amounted to more than DM 600m. The bank believed now it had covered all foreseeable risks arising from DAL, in which it has a 30 per cent stake.

WestLB's group assets rose 4.2 per cent to DM 141.5bn, last year.

Crocker clears Midland plan

By Our Financial Staff

SHAREHOLDERS in Crocker National, the West Coast U.S. bank, have approved a proposal for Midland Bank of the UK to acquire the 43 per cent it does not already own.

Midland's shareholders are to vote on the proposal in London today. Midland has held a majority stake in Crocker since 1981.

Under the terms, Crocker shareholders will receive 0.54 Crocker preferred shares for each Crocker share held.

INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS

EEC \$1.8bn deal flops

By Peter Montagnon in London

THE EEC met a frosty reception when it launched a \$1.8bn, five year floating rate note in the Eurobond market yesterday.

The paper landed in a subdued market with many dealers away in Helsinki for the annual meeting of the Association of International Bond Dealers. But that did not stop the launch of a much more successful DM 15bn issue for the Bank of China, that country's first borrowing in the Eurobond market.

Bankers said the terms on the EEC issue were simply too tight to ensure a positive reception. The bond is to replace a similar issue launched by the EEC in 1983 as part of a package of financing for lending in France.

Led by Credit Suisse First Boston alongside Banque Nationale de Paris, Citicorp and Lloyds Bank International the new issue bears a margin of 1/4 per cent over the London interbank bid rate for six-month Eurodollar deposits. It was being offered to co-managers at a net purchase price of \$9.325.

But the paper fell almost immediately below this break-even point to trade yesterday morning at a discount of some 25 basis points and even lead manager support in the

FIRST TIME visitors to Unocal's headquarters in downtown Los Angeles are left in little doubt about who has been running the company for the last couple of decades.

In the lobby, filled with plaques, paintings and oil industry memorabilia, commemorating great moments in the company's 65-year history, one name stands out: that of Mr Fred Hartley, Unocal's 88 year old chief executive.

Whether he is shaking the hand of some long forgotten foreign potentate at the opening of a Unocal refinery overseas or dedicating an extension to the company's Fred L. Hartley research centre, there is no doubt who has been calling the shots at America's 12th biggest oil company for the last 20 years.

This week's defeat of Mr. T. Boone Pickens, probably the most feared corporate raider on Wall Street, who had been plotting to take over Unocal, is being hailed as one of Fred Hartley's finer moments.

He could be forgiven, argue some of his admirers, if he added Boone Pickens's scalp to his list of trophies in Unocal's lobby. It has been a bitter and bruising battle.

Mr Hartley has always been regarded as one of the tougher leaders of the U.S. oil industry. But his stature within the more conservative parts of the industry has grown enormously during the three-month battle for control of his company.

When he found out that Security Pacific, his main banker, was back-

takeover wave hit the oil patch, a major U.S. oil company has shown that it is possible, with a little outside help, to stand up and defeat a determined corporate raider. This has done wonders for morale within the oil industry where Mr Pickens is anathema.

Unlike other recent oil industry takeovers battles where the oil men have been reluctant to challenge Mr. Pickens's well oiled publicity machine, Mr. Hartley has stood his ground and fought hard, and sometimes dirty, to demolish Mr. Pickens's attractive short-term financial arguments.

He was helped by the fact that

Unocal's performance over the medium term has been better than most.

Its shareholders have received an average annual rate of return - including stock appreciation and dividends - of 15 per cent over the last 25 years.

By contrast, shareholders in the four big international U.S. oil companies received an average 11 per cent return on their investment.

Nevertheless, this sort of performance was not enough to maintain the support of Unocal's fickle institutional shareholders, who have done very well by riding on Mr. Pickens's coat tails during his pursuit of companies like Gulf Oil, Phillips Petroleum and Cities Services.

Mr Hartley started as the underdog in the contest, but he has been quick to exploit his advantages.

When he found out that Security

Pacific, his main banker, was back-



Mr T. Boone Pickens

against corporate raiders like Mr. Pickens.

The Delaware decision supporting Unocal's right to exclude Mr. Pickens from participating in its buyback of around a third of its shares, was a cruel blow for Mr. Pickens, who likened it to having bulldozers clear the playing field during the middle of a game.

"We had players on the field

when they brought the bulldozers in," said Mr. Pickens earlier this week. "Until then it was a very good contest."

Within hours of last Friday's

court decision Mr. Pickens was

suited for peace. If Unocal had gone

ahead and excluded all 22.7m of Mr.

Pickens's Unocal shares from its

buyback offer Mr. Pickens would

have faced an immediate paper loss

of around \$300m on his \$1.1bn in-

vestment in Unocal.

Wall Street and its lawyers are

still mulling the implications of the

Delaware decision. The majority

view is that it is an important set-

back for Mr. Pickens and his ilk,

but, as one influential money man-

aged warned, it would be dangerous

to write the obituaries of the corpo-

rate raiders on the basis of that

decision, which is very specific to Un-

ocal. Their ingenuity is legendary,"

he said.

Back in Los Angeles, some oil in-

dustry leaders are lavishing praise

on Mr. Hartley. Dr. Armand Ham-

mer, the 88-year-old chief executive

of Occidental Petroleum, told his

company's annual meeting on Tues-

day that Mr. Hartley "deserves a

Nobel Prize for his courage and de-

termination to ward off an attack

by raiders. This will send a signal to all future raiders."

But as the dust settles, oil industry chiefs believe that the only real winner in this contest was the conservative Mr. Hartley who gambled his company to stay independent.

It has not gone unnoticed that Dillon Read and Goldman Sachs, Unocal's advisers, stand to make \$25m in fees for ensuring that Unocal remains independent. If it had been taken over they would have earned considerably less.

Mr. Craig Schwerdt, a Los Angeles oil analyst, describes it as "a victory without the champagne." The company was forced to do many of the things it said it would never do to stay independent. It will have to borrow an extra \$4bn and its financial gearing will change from one of the most conservative in the industry to one of the most aggressive, with shareholder's funds of less than \$2bn supporting long-term debt of close to \$631m.

It will be the first major acquisition by Pacific, one of the seven regional telephone holding companies set up as a result of the court-mandated break-up of the Bell System at the start of last year.

Pacific Telesis, which is earning a reputation as one of the most aggressive of the regional holding companies, already has extensive cellular and paging operations. Mr. Sam Ginn, Pacific's vice-chairman, noted that CI "has an excellent management team and is a national leader in the rapidly growing field of paging and cellular technology."

Under the terms of the deal, which is subject to regulatory and shareholder approval, CI's stockholders will receive \$32.75 in cash for each outstanding common

share.

In an apparent attempt to lock out other potential bids, CI has given Pacific a warrant to acquire a 30 per cent stake in the Dallas group

and an option to acquire some of the group's paging and cellular assets.

CI has recently received several takeover proposals, including a \$360m cash and paper offer from a group of investors led by a former senior executive of the company.

Aside from its equipment manufacturing business, CI has more than 275,000 personal paging, car telephone and answering service subscribers in over 20 metropolitan areas and is one of the fastest growing groups in the infant cellular car telephone market. It had net earnings of \$14.5m on revenues of \$98.2m last year.

Pacific Telesis had earnings last year of \$82.5m on revenues of \$7.5bn and has undertaken a number of smaller strategic acquisitions recently, including the purchase of Kensington Datacom, the UK telecommunications group, earlier this year.

The purchase raises Goldsmith's stake to 25.02 per cent of the outstanding Zellerbach stock from 20.08 per cent previously.

• ITT, the U.S. conglomerate, is to lay off about 600 workers out of 4,000 at its telephone and telephone system manufacturing and sales division based in Raleigh, North Carolina.

• Needham's Brazilian subsidiary, the country's largest food manufacturer, had a drop in profitability in 1984, with earnings of Cr 73.6m (\$30.42m) at last year's average exchange rate on sales of Cr 1.4 trillion (U.S.\$775.9m).

A U.S. court of appeals in Atlanta has overturned a landmark Federal Reserve Board ruling that permitted New York-based U.S. Trust Corp. to convert its trust office in Palm Beach, Florida, to a limited-service bank, AP-DJ reports from New York.

The ruling by the Fed, which had reluctantly agreed on technical grounds, had prompted a barrage of similar applications by institutions seeking to circumvent barriers to interstate banking.

The appeal was brought by the Florida Bankers Association and the Florida comptroller's office, which regulates banking activity in the state.

Pillsbury, the U.S. fast-foods group, has overturned a landmark Federal Reserve Board ruling that permitted New York-based U.S. Trust Corp. to convert its trust office in Palm Beach, Florida, to a limited-service bank, AP-DJ reports from New York.

DiversiFood, the largest franchi-

see

shippers

in the U.S. food-products com-

pany, has given up its 30 per cent

stake in the Dallas-based

International Capital Markets

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES and FINANCE

Icahn bids for Trans World

BY OUR NEW YORK STAFF

MR CARL ICAHN, the Wall Street investor, has launched a hostile takeover bid valued at \$600m for Trans World Airlines, as reported in some later editions yesterday. He threatened a proxy battle to unseat the TWA board if his offer is rebuffed.

Mr Icahn, who has already built up a 24 per cent stake in the \$3.7bn a year airline, offered \$18 a share for the rest of TWA's common stock. The offer was made in a written proposal to the airline's board, which had no immediate comment.

The offer ends weeks of speculation over Mr Icahn's intentions -

but appears to set the stage for a bitter takeover battle.

Mr Icahn appeared anxious to lay to rest concerns which have recently dogged similar hostile bids made by other Wall Street stock raiders.

Specifically, he said it was equivalent the cash offer would be fully funded and that he would not accept any greenmail payoff. If successful, he expected to operate TWA in the long-term interests of the airline, its employees and the travelling public.

But Mr Icahn also warned that he would prefer to reach agreement on a friendly takeover; he would seek to unseat the current board if it refused to put his bid to a shareholder vote.



Interim Statement

SKF Group profit for the first three months of 1985 was 388 million Swedish kronor after financial income and expense, which included exchange differences. Sales rose 11 per cent.

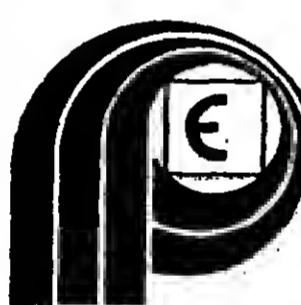
	Jan-March 85	Jan-March 84	Change
Sales (MSkr)	4,952	4,469	+11%
Operating income after depreciation (MSkr)	397	288	+38%
Earnings after financial income and expense (MSkr)	388	234	+66%
Capital expenditure (MSkr)	120	94	+28%
Average number of employees	43,447	42,920	+1%

The growth of rolling bearing sales matched that of 1984, with the exception of North America where the rise was slowed down by the cost of locally made bearings. Other operations, notably steel, cutting tools, machine tools and fasteners, recorded significant sales increases.

Of the 388 million kronor earnings, 283 million was contributed by bearings, 58 million by cutting tools and 8 million by steel operations — which carry the running-in costs of the ScanDust plant in Landskrona, Sweden. Most of the remaining 39 million kronor was contributed by the newly formed Engineering Products Division.

Aktiebolaget SKF, S-415 50 Göteborg, Sweden

NOTICE OF EARLY REDEMPTION



European Economic Community

U.S.\$1,800,000,000

Floating Rate Notes Due 1990

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Condition 5 (b) of the Notes, the EEC will redeem all outstanding Notes at 100% of their principal amount on 8th July 1985, when interest on the Notes will cease to accrue.

Repayment of principal will be made against surrender of the Notes, with unmatured coupons dated January 1986 to July 1990 attached, at the offices of any of the Paying Agents, listed below:—

Bankers Trust Company
Dashwood House,
69 Old Broad Street,
London EC2P 2EE.

Bankers Trust Company
Four Albany Street,
New York,
New York 10015,
USA.

Banque Indosuez Luxembourg
39 Allée Scheffer,
Luxembourg.

Coupons due 8th July 1985 should be detached and presented for payment in the usual manner.

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, LONDON
FISCAL AGENT

23rd May 1985.

UK commodity group faces mystery bid

BY MARTIN DICKSON IN LONDON

GILL & DUFFUS, THE UK commodity broker best known for its cocoa trading, announced yesterday that it was holding talks with an unnamed company which might lead to a bid for the group.

In addition, he would not vote his shares in favour of the cash merger unless a majority of other stockholders voted to accept the offer.

But Mr Icahn also warned that he would prefer to reach agreement on a friendly takeover; he would seek to unseat the current board if it refused to put his bid to a shareholder vote.

gut, which was mainly responsible for a fall in 1984 pre-tax profits to £17.1m, some £3.32m below 1983.

For the past four years profits have been well below the 1980 peak of £23m as the group has tried to overcome an unsuccessful diversification into chemicals, now abandoned. However, one of its most successful subsidiaries is Clarkson Puckle, an insurance broker which produced profits of £5.8m last year.

Analysts suggested last night that any bid was likely to be around 200p a share, valuing the company at some £150m.

Dalgety, which a decade ago was heavily dependent on its traditional Australasian businesses, has diversified strongly in recent years, buying Spillers, the milling and baking group, for £74m in 1978 and the agricultural division of Rank Hovis McDougall for £42m in 1983. It made pre-tax profits of £97m last year.

Montedison sells resin plant to Dow Chemical

BY ALAN FRIEDMAN IN MILAN

DOW Chemical's European subsidiary is paying between £10bn and £15bn (\$15.1m-£7.5bn) to buy a Milan-based resin plant from Montedison, the Italian chemicals, health care and energy group.

The sale of the Montedison factory, which employs 32 people at Fombio, just outside Milan, is part of the Italian group's policy of disposing of non-strategic assets in order to streamline products, reduce costs and indebtedness.

Montedison, which has total debts of £4.34bn, will have total shareholders' funds of £1.11bn following a £1.13bn planned rights issue.

N. AMERICAN QUARTERLY RESULTS

CAMPBELL SOUP

Canned soup, convenience foods

Third quarter 1984-85 1983-84

Revenue \$ \$

Net profits 51.0m 46.7m

Net per share 1.60 1.45

Shares 3,086,000 2,916,000

Net profit per share 1.63 1.58

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INTL. COMPANIES & FINANCE

Stumbling block for Blue Circle

BLUE CIRCLE, the British group, has run into trouble in Indonesia with a cement plant judged to be one of the best in the world. The \$200m plant, in the province of Aceh in Sumatra, came on stream in mid-1983 with a production capacity of more than 1m tonnes a year. But output now runs at barely half that, and Blue Circle has been forced to write off its £10m (£12.7m) investment.

Prospects had seemed ideal. The plant—built to withstand earthquakes—registering as much as seven on the Richter scale—is perched on the northern Sumatra coast, with its own harbour and a plentiful supply of raw materials. Nearby it has a bagging factory, said to be the biggest in the world.

Blue Circle manages the plant on behalf of the locally formed company, PT Semen Andalas. Blue Circle holds 26 per cent of the equity, while other major shareholders are the Swiss Cement group, the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) and the Saudi-based Islamic Development Bank.

With a total involvement of more than \$22m, it is the CDC's biggest single project in Indonesia. The world Bank has provided more than \$60m in soft loans, while Kobe Steel of Japan, which built the plant, provided credits of \$60m.

Almost none of the money has so far been repaid.

The problems, for Semen Andalas, started to emerge in the same year the plant came on stream. A dramatic downturn in Indonesia's revenues from its oil exports, which account for nearly 60 per cent of export earnings, led to the cancellation or rescheduling in early 1983 of several major development projects. As a stroke, cement demand was substantially reduced.

Soon afterwards, the Indo-

Kieran Cooke in Jakarta examines an upset in the Indonesian cement industry

nesian currency, the rupiah, was devalued by 27 per cent, while in the first year of production at Semen Andalas, the price of fuel oil soared as government subsidies were removed. The recent rise in the value of the dollar has only added to the dismal catalogue of woes for the company.

But what has really hurt has been the dramatic expansion of Indonesia's cement industry. In the early 1980s Indonesia was still a cement importer. But in the last four years production capacity has increased many times over. By the end of this year it is expected that Indonesia's capacity will exceed 17m tonnes, by far the biggest in the Asian region. However, even the most

optimistic estimates put domestic demand over the 12 months at no more than 11m tonnes.

More than half the country's cement capacity is controlled by the Indonesian group, founded in the empire of Mr Liem Sioe Liong, the powerful Chinese Indonesian tycoon. At present, it is building one of the world's biggest cement installations in Java with the help of substantial soft loans from the Indonesian State Development Bank.

Indonesian officials are opti-

duction going than for any real financial return. In 1984 Indonesia exported only 400,000 tonnes of cement out of a total production of 9m tonnes.

Semen Andalas has also been hurt by the way that other companies, including those under state control have been allowed to undercut sales in its own agreed concession areas. Many foreign investors in Indonesia have similar complaints: they say that the government frequently gives assurances on markets and other operating factors, but then influential parties intervene and are seemingly able to do so in the face of stated policy.

But despite the problems at Semen Andalas, it is unlikely the plant will close. "It would be very indiscriminate to pull out of such a potentially vast market," said one official.

Indeed, the company has recently been restructured and new partners brought in which, it is hoped, will be able to exercise more influence on government officials. The plant is also being converted to coal firing.

It obviously rankles with many at the plant that such a modern works is being forced to operate at only half its capacity. As one worker put it: "The symbol of Semen Andalas is a blue circle with an elephant inside. It's supposed to symbolise strength, but right now it looks more like a white elephant."

Modest profits advance at Fuji Heavy

By Carlo Rapoport in Tokyo

FUJI Heavy Industries, the maker of Subaru cars, recorded a modest 5.3 per cent increase in net pre-tax profits for the year ended last March to Y30bn (\$119.9m) on sales up 11.5 per cent to Y672bn.

The company, in a statement accompanying its unaudited figures, said the improvement was due to higher sales, continued benefits from income earned on its surplus funds, and increase dividends from one of its sales companies from the U.S.

The improvement reversed the decline in profits recorded last year but does not restore the company to its 1983 peak of Y34bn. In pre-tax profits on Y80bn.

Sales of cars, the company's main product, went up by 9.7 per cent, despite the fact that it decided last summer to postpone the planned production of its Subaru 'Leone' subcompact.

Net profits were Y14.8bn or Y40.50 a share, against Y15.2bn or Y41.25 a share.

In the current year, Fuji projects another increase in pre-tax profits to Y35bn on sales of Y760bn. The dividend is expected to remain unchanged at Y8.

Kyodo adds from Tokyo: The company told a Japanese press conference that it is considering assembling cars in the U.S. Mr Toshihiko Tajima, its president-designate, said: "We are studying the matter, though a concrete plan has yet to be worked out."

He said the project might be launched in partnership with other car makers Japanese and foreign. Fuji is affiliated with Nissan Cars.

Barclays Fiji sale

SYDNEY—Barclays Bank of the UK has agreed to sell its operations in Fiji to Australia and New Zealand Banking Group. ANZ announced yesterday the agreement, subject to approval by the Fiji authorities, was made on undisclosed terms. ANZ said it plans to take over the three Barclays branches on July 1. AP-DJ

Two Australian aerospace groups to amalgamate

By LACHLAN DRUMMOND IN SYDNEY

TWO AUSTRALIAN aerospace companies, the UK-controlled Hawker de Havilland and the locally owned Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation (CAC), are to amalgamate.

The move will create a group with combined sales of some A\$160m and 3,350 employees.

Terms of the merger were not revealed because approval from the country's Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) has yet to be gained. It is expected however, that the recently publicly listed Hawker—70 per cent owned by Hawker Siddeley—will buy CAC from its corporate shareholders for something over A\$25m (U.S.\$17.3m).

The two companies said they would merge because the resulting enterprise would be a more effective operating unit.

Senator John Button, the Industry Minister, welcomed the planned amalgamation. He said it would reduce fragmentation in the industry which, he said, had been one of its structural problems for many years. His support suggests few problems

in the merger.

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will be encountered at the FIRB.

Both companies are involved with defence work in repair and maintenance of air force aircraft and each is also involved in production of components for the new Hornet fighters being taken up by the air force.

Last year Hawker won 40 per cent of its A\$72m of sales from export, which include components for Boeing, Airbus and McDonnell Douglas commercial aircraft.

Its net earnings totalled A\$3.5m for the year to December 1984, compared with A\$1.8m for CAC in its year to June 30, when it showed sales worth A\$76m, of which 26 per cent came from export.

The companies hope the greater size of the combined operation will make it better able to compete in international markets and to participate in collaboration agreements.

CAC is owned by a consortium of seven companies comprising BHP, North Broken Hill, Western Mining, EZ Industries, ICI Australia, Rolls-Royce, and P & O Australia.

Bankers agree A\$1.65bn facility for Woodside

By OUR SYDNEY CORRESPONDENT

WOODSIDE PETROLEUM has reached agreement with its lead bankers on a A\$1.65bn (U.S.\$1.4bn) credit facility which will cover existing loans and its share of the export phase of the North-West Shelf gas project.

Doubts in some quarters about Woodside's ability to secure this financing—led to BHP and Shell two months ago launching a bid valuing Woodside at A\$800m.

The joint bidders have since moved from 43 per cent ownership to majority control, with an A\$200m rights issue planned. Doubts over its ability to raise the funds has thus all but been removed, although Woodside had maintained all along that it was able alone to secure the credit.

Commitment of the 13 lead

management banks to the financing which covers existing loans of A\$1.1bn advanced for the completed domestic phase of the project awaits formal documentation and an engineering and technical status report.

Contracts for the uptake of the required natural gas have been finalised by the eight Japanese partners, and final commitment by the project partners is due in June.

A notable absentee from the lead management team is Morgan Guaranty, which led the initial credit in 1981, but backed away from the latest arrangements earlier this year.

While Morgan—along with Okinawa—has dropped out, Bank of Tokyo, Dai Ichi Kangyo, Deutsche Bank, NatWest, and the National and Westpac banks from Australia have joined the lead group.

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UK COMPANY NEWS

Bass up 26% but warns of second half slowdown

Bass, which ranks as Britain's largest brewer, yesterday reported interim taxable profits well above most market expectations, but warned that the rate of profit improvement—they expanded by some 26 per cent—will not be maintained over the full year.

The midway outcome was a rise from £24.4m to £30.6m, which compared with City forecasts of around £28m, but the shares fell 15p on the announcement to 557p. They recovered later on to close the day at 568p.

The performance of the group's leisure division was also a reason for the market's disappointment. At the trading level, leisure side profits slipped from £5.2m to £5.0m on turnover £25.6m instead of £28.2m. Mr Derek Palmer, Bass' chairman, said that the severe winter affected the profits of racing operations and that amusement machine manufacturing suffered from difficult market conditions.

He explains that the Easter period fell in the first half this year, but in the second half last time, and that this will affect trading comparisons. In addition, the second period in 1984 had been boosted by an extra weekly trading and above average weather. These factors combined suggest that the second half of 1985 will witness a decline in the rate of profit growth.

The group's activity—brewing, drinks and pub retailing—continued to show healthy growth both in sales and in profits. Beer sales have continued to expand compared with the same

period last year and market share has increased.

Overall, the division turned in sales up from £28.3m to £32.5m to produce trading profits of £10.4m against £9.8m. Aggregate group sales rose from £1.1bn to £1.21bn. Costs and overheads, less other income, also increased, from £0.18m to £0.18m.

Group trading profits came out at £11.4m against £9.4m. They were calculated after charging £5.6m more at £35.3m for depreciation on tangible fixed

effective rate of 35 per cent (adjusted 34.2 per cent). After this, net profits came out at £89m against £86.5m.

The interim dividend is to be increased by 0.4p to 3.7p, and will account for £12.1m against £10.7m of available ordinary earnings. These came to £89m against £85.5m. Midway earnings per share are stated at 21.1p, an increase of 4.1p.

In the last full period, Bass achieved record taxable profits of £21.8m, up from £17.5m, on group sales totalling £22.25bn. The dividend then came to 12.9p.

Since the start of the period under review, Bass has expanded further in the leisure field with the acquisition of the 10.4 per cent stake in Horizon Travel, taking its total holding to 25.6 per cent. Bass gave assurances that it would respect Horizon's wish to continue as a separate company.

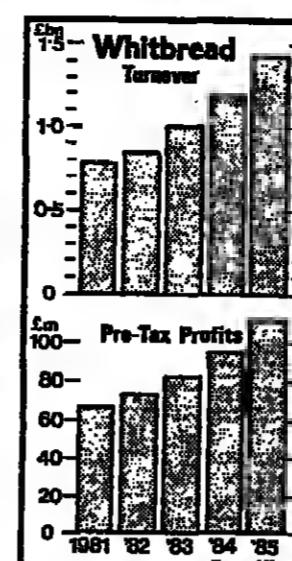
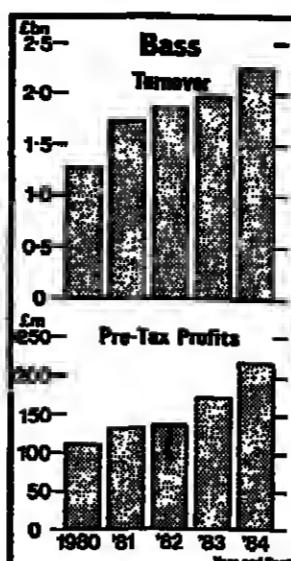
See Lex

assets and after a provision of £1.7m against £1.1m for Bass employee share ownership scheme.

The despatched lives of some assets in certain leisure companies have been reviewed, which has given rise to an additional charge of £1.5m. Trading profits is also after adding various surpluses on the disposal of fixed assets and subsidiaries. These made £1.3m less for the brewing, drinks and pub retailing division at £4.7m, but added £1.5m to leisure compared with a charge of £300,000 last time. The cost of company borrowing fell from £10.1m to £7.3m in the half.

The company tax bill at the midway stage came to £27.1m against £26.5m, an estimated £1.1m, and an estimated 31.7 per cent of Adams' equity.

Mr Derek Palmer (left) chairman of Bass, and Mr Sam Whitbread, chairman of Whitbread.



Avon Rubber's shares slip on interim £2m

A RISE of 53 per cent in interim taxable profits at Avon Rubber was not enough to satisfy the City, which had been expecting nearer £3m than £2m, and the shares were marked down 17p to 293p on the day.

The outcome for the half year to March 31 1985 was an increase from £1.31m to £2.01m, and was due to a 27.1 per cent fall in interest charges as to improved trading. The directors say that the second half is expected to show continued progress.

The interim dividend is lifted by 0.2 to 2.2p per share on capital increased by last September's rights issue, which raised £2.9m for the company. In the last half year, on pre-tax profits of £2.5m, there was a total payment of 50p. Earnings per share are shown at 13.2p (14.5p) for the half year.

The directors say that the profit increase was achieved despite the adverse effects in

the early months of the year of industrial problems in the UK car industry and fiercely competitive conditions in all parts of the tyre business. Avon is also involved in the manufacture of industrial polymers.

Turnover moved ahead from £90.09m to £96.59m, thanks largely to a 27.1 per cent fall in interest charges at the strength of the U.S. dollar, but this has also increased the group's raw material costs.

Operating profits came out at £4.86m against £4.33m, to which related companies added £100,000 less at £75,000. Depreciation was up from £1.89m to £2.11m.

Interest and similar charges were cut from £1.31m to £935,000, and there was a charge for tax of £179,000 (£200,000) arising mainly on the profits of overseas subsidiary and related companies.

Minority interests took £56,000

This advertisement is published by Debenhams PLC, whose directors (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

DEBENHAMS BOARD REJECTS OFFER BY THE BURTON GROUP

The Board of Debenhams, advised by N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, rejects the offer announced today by the Burton Group. The offer is inadequate in the extreme and lacks any obvious commercial logic.

With its imaginative and innovative decentralised management structure, the Debenhams Group is successfully showing that department stores have an important and increasingly profitable role to play in the retailing sector, especially when coupled with a well balanced property portfolio and, in Welbeck Finance, a leading consumer credit organisation.

Over the past four years the Debenhams Group has undergone an intensive period of consolidation and reconstruction, the fruits of which were manifest in the record earnings and dividends for the year ended 2nd February, 1985 announced recently.

Trading profits have improved consistently over the past four years and the Debenhams Group is poised for further gains.

The suggestion that Burton can offer any management skills to enhance the performance of the Debenhams Group, which embraces a range of activities including specialist retailing, footwear manufacture and financial services, is fanciful.

The notion that the interests of such internationally renowned retailing names as Harvey Nichols and Hamleys can best be served by being merged with high street clothing multiples is odd.

The Board is convinced that the interest of shareholders, staff and customers is best served by the Debenhams Group remaining independent.

Given the Group's excellent long term prospects as a powerful and independent force in retailing, Debenhams shareholders would be ill-advised to sacrifice their right to future gains by accepting Burton's opportunistic and inadequate bid—which even seeks to deny Debenhams shareholders' entitlement to the final dividend for 1984/85.

The Board will be writing to shareholders giving its detailed reasons for the rejection of the offer in due course. In the meantime shareholders are urged to take no action with regard to the offer and are strongly advised not to sell their shares in the market.

D E B E N H A M S
Specialists—above all

22nd May 1985.

AIB meets dividend with £42m transfer

THE write-off of Allied Irish Bank's interest in the troubled Insurance Corporation of Ireland has eliminated net profits for the 1984/85 year, and the remaining deficit has been met by a £157.2m—equivalent to £24.2m sterling—transfer from reserves.

The transfer was necessary in order to cover the dividend for the 1984/85 year, which Mr Niall Crowley, AIB's chairman, promised would be maintained at 9.5p per share despite the full write-off transfer from reserves.

The full allowance for the disinvestment of Insurance Corporation, which has since been taken over by the Irish Government, wiped out the bank's profits for the year ending March 31 1985. At the pre-tax level, these were in line with the forecast made last March at the time of the AIB disinvestment, though they showed a slight fall from £185.4m to £184.4m (269m) over the year.

After tax, profits were up by 10.4p to £52.8m.

Mr Crowley says that the dividend—the final—is unchanged at 5p—"a reflection of our confidence in the future profitability of AIB and our belief that we can achieve our aim of rebuilding reserves out of future retained profits over the next few years."

He adds that the bank's capital ratio at the year end stood at 6.1 per cent, and the objective is to achieve the Bank of Ireland desired ratio of 6.5 per cent by the end of the current year.

...In the period under review AIB's bad debt provision resulted in charge against profits of £53.7m, £12.5m up on an already high provision for the previous year. Most of these occurred in the Irish Republic, and reflect the continuing effects of the recession.

Associated companies lifted their contribution to group profits by nearly £11m to £110.5m. The chief of these is the U.S. based First Maryland Bancorp, which lifted earnings by 41 per cent and has risen 38 per cent in the current first quarter.

● comment

Not surprisingly the ICI debate haunts both the profit and loss account and balance sheet of Allied Irish Bank. However, a useful £10.1m contribution from First Maryland Bancorp (which should be majority owned within three years) helped keep the pecking order of the pre-tax profits up and in line with forecasts. The balance sheet has shrunk from £182.7m at the interim stage to £177.8m mainly due to the removal of ICI—although it has also the useful effect of boosting capital ratios. For the UK investor the total dividend is 10.46p (paid out of reserves) producing a yield of 5.1 per cent—the Irish investor does better but the tax regime bevels easy comparisons. In the present year the funding costs of the £140m injected into ICI shortly before its collapse plus the low yielding £550m on loan to the Irish Government and the £220m with London underwriters will all be a drain on returns. Nonetheless the market is looking for a small improvement, to £188m pre-tax suggesting a prospective multiple of four times earnings (35 per cent tax charge) on 115p.

Whitbread's £110m marks ten years of profit growth

Whitbread and Company, Britain's third largest brewer, yesterday added another notch to its annual growth record with the unveiling of its results for 1984/85 showing a 15.3 per cent rise from £98.1m to £110.1m pre-

structure, the chairman said, had proved successful in helping to meet demands of the business; beer, brewing and wholesaling to produce trading profits of £10.7m of available ordinary earnings. These came to £89m against £85.5m. Midway earnings per share are stated at 21.1p, an increase of 4.1p.

This matched City expectations and marked the tenth of an unabated run of profits growth since the downturn to £21.5m.

And with all divisions either on or above budget, "things look good for the current year," said Mr Sam Whitbread, the chairman.

Whitbread, he said, ended 1984/85 with little change overall in its volume sales, but pointed out that six weeks into the current year it was showing an increase of 2.7 per cent.

The latest results covering the 52 weeks to March 22 were considered highly satisfactory by Mr Whitbread, given the background of static brewing industry volumes and the miners' strike which cost an estimated £1m in profit terms.

Whitbread's shares gained 8p to 221p yesterday and yield 9.5p with the sectoral average—the directors recommending a final dividend of 4.5p on a higher total of 6.55p against 6.25p.

Earnings per share rose from 19.27p to 21.35p after tax of 19.27p to 21.35p after tax of £25.4m (£18.6m).

The group's new divisional

structure, the chairman said, had actively looking to replace the lost brands he stressed that the main name within the takeover was Cutty Sark.

Over recent years this brand's market share in the U.S. has fallen from between 19 per cent to 20 per cent to around 15 per cent.

Whitbread expects to take this up to 16 per cent by the end of the current year and has set a target of 20 per cent over the next three years.

Total group capital expenditure over the year, excluding acquisitions, totalled £145m. Whitbread spent £40m on brewing and wholesaling, just under £70m on retailing and the balance on wines and spirits, and expects to spend a similar amount this year. Interest charges in 1984/85 were £12.6m higher at £24.4m and Whitbread says that net gearing went up from 27.1 per cent to 34.6 per cent.

The P and L account in 1984/85 absorbed £10.5m (£3.4m) of extraordinary items reflecting £18.3m of closure costs on the Luton Brewery, rationalisation and reorganisation expenditure of £6.4m, and £2m for the termination of Nigerian interests.

Whitbread estimates that the Luton shutdown is producing cost savings of around £5m annually.

See Lex

Shell Transport chief warns of tighter production restraints

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries may be forced into even tighter production restraints this year if oil prices are not to slide further.

Sir Peter Baxendale, chairman of Shell Transport and Trading, said yesterday.

Sir Peter, who was speaking at the company's annual meeting and on the publication of the company's first quarter results, said that oil prices could easily fall further from their already weak levels.

Opco's current quota system, which restricts output to 16m b/d was not, Sir Peter said, tight enough to stabilise prices. "Opco may possibly take further collective action to maintain its pricing aims. Alternatively prices may slide further in the next few months."

The most striking feature of Shell's results, however, concerned its metals activities, which are to be "rationalised" at the cost of £50m (£14m) arising out of the sudden weakening of the dollar against most other major currencies at the end of the first quarter 1985.

Oil and gas earnings for the quarter were £12.6m (£1.01bn) on a reported, and £11.6m (£985m) on an estimated cost of supplies basis—increases of 26 per cent and 15 per cent respectively.

Compared with the first quarter 1984, group equity crude oil production improved by 2 per cent to 1.66m (1.63m) barrels daily; group natural gas sales volumes increased by 12 per cent to 8.04bn (7.19bn) cubic feet daily.

Larger oil and gas exploration and production earnings of £9.7m (£741m) reflect the benefits of weaker sterling, higher natural gas sales and prices, and increased equity crude production, partly offset by the impact of greater exploration expense.

While reported earnings from oil and gas manufacturing operations increased from £26.9m to £31.5m, earnings on an estimated current cost of supplies basis were lower when compared with the same quarter of 1984. There was continued widespread difficulty in recovering in local currency prices, supply cost increased caused by the stronger U.S. dollar.

Chemical earnings were largely unchanged at £8.3m. Provision of £50m for rationalisation and consolidation of metals activities benefitted from high prices and

largely offset by the effect of weaker sterling.

The chemicals division, to group sterling net income increased however, by 22.9p to £21.6m, reflecting the lower average sterling dollar exchange rate and the higher group shareholding.

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Notice of Redemption

Dow Corning Overseas Capital Company N.V.

8 1/4 PER CENT. GUARANTEED DEBENTURES DUE 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of June 15, 1971 under which the above described Debentures were issued, Citibank, N.A. (formerly First National City Bank), as Trustee, has drawn for redemption on June 15, 1985 through the operation of the Mandatory Redemption Provision of the said Indenture, \$2,500,000 principal amount of Debentures of the said issue, bearing the following distinctive numbers:

COUPON DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT

163	2560	4764	680	5285	9857	1015	1128	1200	12884	13155	13751	13834
222	3222	4765	697	5291	9858	1111	1228	1300	13084	13707	13852	13835
223	3223	4766	708	5292	9859	1112	1229	1301	13085	13708	13853	13843
53	3821	4752	630	5296	9871	1030	1232	1302	12839	13740	13858	13846
54	3824	4832	680	5299	9878	1031	1231	1303	12842	13741	13854	13849
343	3826	4837	680	5300	9880	1032	1232	1303	12845	13742	13855	13850
373	3845	4844	691	5307	9882	1034	1233	1304	12849	13743	13857	13856
383	3849	4845	694	5308	9883	1035	1234	1305	12851	13745	13858	13856
394	3854	4847	695	5309	9885	10345	1235	13048	12857	13746	13854	13859
395	3856	4848	697	5310	9887	10346	1236	13049	12858	13747	13850	13854
396	3857	4849	698	5311	9888	10347	1236	13050	12859	13748	13851	13855
397	3858	4850	698	5312	9889	10348	1236	13051	12860	13749	13852	13856
398	3859	4851	699	5313	9890	10349	1236	13052	12861	13750	13853	13857
399	3860	4852	699	5314	9891	10350	1236	13053	12862	13751	13854	13858
400	3861	4853	699	5315	9892	10351	1236	13054	12863	13752	13855	13859
401	3862	4854	699	5316	9893	10352	1236	13055	12864	13753	13856	13860
402	3863	4855	699	5317	9894	10353	1236	13056	12865	13754	13857	13861
403	3864	4856	699	5318	9895	10354	1236	13057	12866	13755	13858	13862
404	3865	4857	699	5319	9896	10355	1236	13058	12867	13756	13859	13863
405	3866	4858	699	5320	9897	10356	1236	13059	12868	13757	13860	13864
406	3867	4859	699	5321	9898	10357	1236	13060	12869	13758	13861	13865
407	3868	4860	699	5322	9899	10358	1236	13061	12870	13759	13862	13866
408	3869	4861	699	5323	9900	10359	1236	13062	12871	13760	13863	13867
409	3870	4862	699	5324	9901	10360	1236	13063	12872	13761	13864	13868
410	3871	4863	699	5325	9902	10361	1236	13064	12873	13762	13865	13870
411	3872	4864	699	5326	9903	10362	1236	13065	12874	13763	13866	13871
412	3873	4865	699	5327	9904	10363	1236	13066	12875	13764	13867	13872
413	3874	4866	699	5328	9905	10364	1236	13067	12876	13765	13868	13873
414	3875	4867	699	5329	9906	10365	1236	13068	12877	13766	13869	13874
415	3876	4868	699	5330	9907	10366	1236	13069	12878	13767	13870	13875
416	3877	4869	699	5331	9908	10367	1236	13070	12879	13768	13871	13876
417	3878	4870	699	5332	9909	10368	1236	13071	12880	13769	13872	13877
418	3879	4871	699	5333	9910	10369	1236	13072	12881	13770	13873	13878
419	3880	4872	699	5334	9911	10370	1236	13073	12882	13771	13874	13879
420	3881	4873	699	5335	9912	10371	1236	13074	12883	13772	13875	13880
421	3882	4874	699	5336	9913	10372	1236	13075	12884	13773	13876	13881
422	3883	4875	699	5337	9914	10373	1236	13076	12885	13774	13877	13882
423	3884	4876	699	5338	9915	10374	1236	13077	12886	13775	13878	13883
424	3885	4877	699	5339	9916	10375	1236	13078	12887	13776	13879	13884
425	3886	4878	699	5340	9917	10376	1236	13079	12888	13777	13880	13885
426	3887	4879	699	5341	9918	10377	1236	13080	12889	13778	13881	13886
427	3888	4880	699	5342	9919	10378	1236	13081	12890	13779	13882	13887
428	3889	4881	699	5343	9920	10379	1236	13082	12891	13780	13883	13888
429	3890	4882	699	5344	9921	10380	1236	13083	12892	13781	13884	13889
430	3891	4883	699	5345	9922	10381	1236	13084	12893	13782	13885	13890
431	3892	4884	699	5346	9923	10382	1236	13085	12894	13783	13886	13891
432	3893	4885	699	5347	9924	10383	1236	13086	12895	13784	13887	13892
433	3894	4886	699	5348	9925	10384	1236	13087	12896	13785	13888	13893
434	3895	4887	699	5349	9926	10385	1236	13088	12897	13786	13889	13894
435	3896	4888	699	5350	9927	10386	1236	13089	12898	13787	13890	13895
436	3897	4889	699	5351	9928	10387	1236	13090	12899	13788	13891	13896
437	3898	4890	699	5352	9929	10388	1236	13091	12900	13789	13892	13897
438	3899	4891	699	5353	9930	10389	1236	13092	12901	13790	13893	13898
439	3900	4892	699	5354	9931	10390	1236	13093	12902	13791	13894	13899
440	3901	4893	699	5355	9932	10391	1236	13094	12903	13792	13895	13900
441	3902	4894	699	5356	9933	10392	1236	13095	12904	13793	13896	13901
442	3903	4895	699	5357	9934	10393	1236</td					

UK COMPANY NEWS

Tunstall Telecom ahead to £1.7m at half year

Tunstall Telecom Group, which achieved a full listing in December, has announced a 38 per cent increase in its interim pre-tax profits of £1.71m against £1.24m previously.

For the six months ended March 31 1985, the results of the group, which makes and supplies elderly persons' emergency communications equipment, include figures relating to M&W Ford & White, an alarms producer, acquired in October. The comparative figures have accordingly been restated to include M&W Ford & White's results.

The interim dividend is increased 0.7p to 0.61p net. The 0.61p total last year was paid on profits of £2.53m. Stated net earnings are shown as 8.5p (5.8p) per 50p share.

Mr Michael Dawson, the chairman, says that the group's 'excellent results' have been achieved despite the imposition of severe constraints on Local Authority expenditure by the Government. Strong marketing and tight overhead controls have substantially overcome this difficulty, he says and the group is confident of maintaining its growth throughout the rest of the year.

He adds that although Tunstall's traditional market

place will continue to expand, new markets are in the course of development to lessen the group's dependence on the public sector. The benefits of these major initiatives will begin to come through in 1985-86.

The past six months has been a period of consolidation for the group, Mr Dawson said. After initial pre-acquisition losses it is now progressing satisfactorily.

The group's Piper range remains a undisputed market leader, Mr Dawson says, following the introduction of Piper Pendant and Piper Network Controller.

The group is launching a domestic emergency communication product, Piper Lifeline.

This, together with the Piper Network Controller, will open up new opportunities in both the public and private sectors. Development costs for these products charged against profits, will be £250,000, of which £400,000 was incurred during the period.

Turnover for the half year improved from £7.1m to £9.8m, generating an operating profit of £1.7m (£1.22m), after costs and overheads of £8.03m (£5.89m), which include £42,000 of expenses incurred in obtaining the full listing.

37% drop in Rolfe & Nolan profit

A DROP of 37 per cent, from £571,000 to £360,000, in pre-tax profits is reported by Rolfe and Nolan Computer Services for the year ended February 28 1985. However, the dividend is being held at 4p net per share.

Turnover moved ahead by 8 per cent to £2.69m, but the trading profit before taxation fell by 26 per cent from £842,000 to £619,000. This, say the directors, reflects a 17 per cent rise in operating charges in both the Futures Accounting and Commercial Services Division, stemming from a full year's cost of the £1m investment in additional software personnel.

The Commercial Futures business sales remained steady throughout the year although at a slightly lower level than 1983-84. The changing emphasis within the Commercial Services Division is reflected in sales of old folk in their own homes for they council houses or privately-owned. The company can approach this in two ways—first by working hand-in-hand with local authorities and by licensing with a retailer to sell alarms direct to the public. Clearly, such a switch in markets will involve start-up costs and will probably take the company into a more competitive field than it has been used to—but the potential rewards from such a move are considerable.

Shares, up 20p to 30p, are well up with events—on full-year profits of 4.4m and a 40 per cent tax charge they changed hands one multiple of 17.

Restructuring completed at NEI

At the annual meeting of Northern Engineering Industries yesterday, Sir Duncan McDonald, the chairman, said that the fundamental structure of the group was now established and its rationalisation programme completed. This would be reflected in a lack of extraordinary expenditure in the current and coming years.

He said that 1984 had not been one of the easiest years. The group's power company had experienced difficulties with two major power stations, one in the Sudan and the other in India.

Other areas of difficulty had arisen from the duration of the miners' strike, the strength of the U.S. dollar and the weakness of the South African rand. In addition, the tax charge for the year had been high, representing 41 per cent of taxable profit. The group expected the effective rate to be reduced in 1985.

The year had also had many good facets. The UK companies achieved profits of over £40m, losses in North America had been reduced from £11m to £4m, and the order book at the year end stood at £1.5m.

Sir Duncan said he had accom-

panied Lord Young on his recent British Mission to China, and that NEI had taken steps to be well-placed for a share of business there.

For the future, he said that the benefits of restructuring, the costs of which had been fully provided, would flow throughout this year and beyond.

The return to profitability of the U.S. and Canadian companies was heartening, he said, and added that the group looked forward to reaping the benefits of the actions that had been taken.

Mr J. A. Floyd, the chairman of Christie's, said at the annual meeting that during the past six months the company had undertaken a major expansion in New York, which had a good reception.

He said that the market in the first few months of the current year had been healthy. After an exceptional 1984 they had more than maintained the momentum. Turnover had increased in the first four months over the comparable period.

At the annual meeting of James Neil Holdings, Mr Hugh Nelli, the chairman, said that

sales in the first four months had shown an increase both on the preceding four months and on the corresponding period last year.

On prospects for 1985, Mr Nelli repeated to shareholders that they were good. He said the expenditure already incurred in the year and the group's financial commitments, totalled £2.2m, and that substantial expenditure would also be incurred in 1985 in implementing the next stage of the group's reorganisation.

The chairman said that negotiations were well advanced for the sale of the Napier Street site for around £1m.

At the annual meeting of Brown Rover Kent (Holdings) Mr E. Bielecki, the chairman told shareholders that orders for the first few months of 1985 generally across the group remained well up on the equivalent period.

Turnover in the first quarter had been below expectation, but the second quarter was progressing satisfactorily. With the improving order book, particularly on the newer products, a further profit advance for the full year was anticipated.

At the annual meeting of James Neil Holdings, Mr Hugh Nelli, the chairman, said that

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Yearling bonds totalling £9.4m at 12.1 per cent, redeemable on May 28 1986, have been issued by the following local authorities.

Alnwick District Council £0.25m; Oswr Borough Council

£0.45m; Roxburgh DC £0.55m;

Cumbernauld and Kilsyth DC £0.25m; Mendip DC £0.5m;

Chesterfield (Borough of) £1m;

Dundee (City of) DC £1.5m;

Alfordale DC £0.25m; Medina BC £0.5m; Swale BC £0.75m; Aberdeen (City of) £1.5m; Cynon Valley (Borough of) £0.25m;

Gosport (Borough of) £0.75m.

Personal Assets Trust

increased net asset value per 12.1p share to 40.26p as of April 30 1985, a rise of 25.3 per cent over the previous 12.1p.

In line with a policy of paying out residual income in full, the dividend for the year is 0.2p net, against the company's initial payment of 0.4p for 1983-84.

Gross income for the 12 months was little changed at £163,000 (£184,000). Net revenue was £30,000 lower at £82,000, after higher interest and expenses and tax. Earnings per share were stated at 0.61p (0.45p).

The trust was interested with private investors in mind and a

small commitment to long term capital growth. The performance is regarded as encouraging over the short period of one year.

The costs incurred in obtaining new business were reflected in first-half figures of Craton Lodge & Knight Group, the USA quoted new price development costs.

Although turnover rose by £0.15m to £1.30m, pre-tax profits for the six months to March 31, 1985 fell from £223,000 to £139,000.

Last month at the annual meeting, Mr David Craton, the chairman, had forecast a lower interim result. However, a substantially high current level of fee revenues meant that the outcome for the full year will be satisfactory. Last year, £185,000 pre-tax was earned.

A first interim dividend of 0.45p net is declared. Stated earnings per 12.1p share dropped from 2.45p to 1.11p after tax of 26.000.

The Far East interests of paper merchant Spicers International, which went into receivership in February, have been sold to Price & Pierce (Holdings) Co. Ltd, the London-based paper and pulp merchants. The sale, which represents about 80 per cent of

Spicer International's interest overseas, was concluded by dealers Guy Parsons and Alan Miles of accountants Peat Marwick.

The Scheme of Arrangement to effect the merger of Majestic and Barlow has been sanctioned by the Court and an order has been made confirming the reduction of capital of Barlow for which it provides. It is expected that the Scheme will become effective on May 24.

At 3pm on May 17, elections had been received in respect of the cash alternative to Barlow scheme shares. It satisfied in full, they would require the payment by Majestic of £20.40m.

The maximum cash available for the cash alternative is £20m, and accordingly all elections will be satisfied in respect of approximately 97.6 per cent of the number of Barlow scheme shares in each form of election.

Holders of those Barlow scheme shares in respect of which the election for the cash alternative does not take effect, will receive 777 new Majestic shares for every 1,800 such Barlow scheme shares and in proportion for any other number of Barlow scheme shares.

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Management Agency & Music P.L.C.

INTERIM STATEMENT

The unaudited Profits of the Group before taxation for the six months ended 31st January 1985 amounted to £886,910 compared with £818,103 for the comparative six months last year.

Six months 31st January 1985 31st January 1984

Turnover £16,426,249 £15,510,770

Pre-Tax Profits £86,910 £81,103

Corporation Tax at 43.33% (48.33%)

£84,298 £86,389

Interim Dividend £50,612 422,714

Unappropriated Profit Carried Forward £23,695 233,695

£208,917 £189,017

Earnings per Ordinary Share 6.02p 5.06p

Your Board has today declared an interim dividend of 2.8 pence per share (1984-85 1.8p) which will be paid on 18th June 1985 to shareholders registered at the close of business on 24th May 1985.

These half year results are in line with the Board's forecast, contained in the last Annual Report, that profits for the full year were likely to be similar to those of the previous year, excluding the effect on profits of any settlement during the year of the Gilbert O'Sullivan law suit, which would of necessity have an effect on the final results. However, it is also now expected that the trading profits of the group for the full year will be somewhat lower than previously anticipated.

Shareholders will be aware that a settlement of the Gilbert O'Sullivan case was in fact effected on the 29th May at a cost to the group of approximately £1.5m, which sum should eventually be considerably reduced as the case wears on.

Call deposits £1,000 and over 9.5% gross.

21-day deposits over £1,000 10%.

Mortgage base rate.

* See Provincial Trust Ltd.

■ Demand deposits 9.5%.

Premier Group Holdings Limited

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

"Turnover and trading profits improve but higher interest rates, taxation and minorities affect attributable earnings."

A. H. BLOOM, Chairman

The audited consolidated results of the Group for the year ended 31 March 1985 are as follows:

INCOME STATEMENT

1985 1984 % Change

Turnover £2,310.9 £2,049.1 +13%

Trading Profit 141.4 127.1 +11%

Dividend Income 40.0 40.2

Less: Net Interest Paid 181.4 167.3

Foreign exchange losses 7.4 4.3

Profit before tax 101.8 124.0

Less: Taxation 24.8 26.6

Profit after tax 77.0 95.4

Less: Outside shareholders 23.8 15.7

Preference dividends 1.1 0.6

56.0 79.1

Share of retained earnings of associated companies 43.5 41.1

Attributable earnings 95.5 120.2

56.7m 56.0m

BALANCE SHEET

1985 1984

Shareholders' funds £1,293.5 £1,167.3

Preference 17.3 17.4

Outside 182.2 101.2

1,455.0 1,265.9

Interest bearing debt

65.7 53.8

Long-term borrowings

234.5 222.1

Medium-term borrowings

118.6 77.8

Short-term borrowings

418.8 353.7

Total capital employed

1,673.8 1,639.6

Fixed Assets

577.4 464.5

Operating Assets

1,022.4 955.4

Investments and loans

1,605.4 1,430.9

THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER FOR SALE AND THE STOCKS LISTED BELOW ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE DIRECT FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND. OFFICIAL DEALINGS IN THE STOCKS ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE ON THURSDAY, 23RD MAY 1985.

ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT STOCK

The Bank of England announces that Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 21st May 1985, and has issued to the Bank additional amounts as indicated of each of the Stocks listed below:

£150 million 10 per cent TREASURY STOCK, 1992

£250 million 10½ per cent EXCHEQUER STOCK, 2005

The price paid by the Bank on issue was in each case the middle market closing price of the relevant Stock on 21st May 1985 as certified by the Government Broker.

In each case, the amount issued on 21st May 1985 represents a further tranche of the relevant Stock, ranking in all respects pari passu with that Stock and subject to the terms and conditions of its prospectus, save as to the particulars therein which relate solely to the initial sale of the Stock. Copies of the prospectuses for the Stocks listed above, dated 11th November 1977 and 14th January 1985 respectively, may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for each further tranche of stock to be admitted to the Official List.

The Stocks are repayable at par, and interest is payable half-yearly, on the dates shown below:

Stock	Redemption date	Interest payment dates
10 per cent Treasury Stock, 1992	21st February 1992	21st February
21st August		
10½ per cent Exchequer Stock, 2005	20th September 2005	20th March
		20th September

The further tranche of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 1992 will rank for a full six month interest on 21st August 1985. The further tranche of 10½ per cent Exchequer Stock, 2005 will rank for a full six month interest payment of 55.5672 per cent due on 20th September 1985 on the existing Stock.

BANK OF ENGLAND
LONDON
21st May 1985

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY STRATEGIC RURAL INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIA

Opportunity for an international investor to acquire a group of first class managed farm properties.

Asking price US\$20 million.

NS Securities
Tlx: AA 70537 TWENTY
Tel: +612 223-1569
P.O. Box 4853
SYDNEY NSW 2001
AUSTRALIA

Arthur Young &
Company
Att'n Lewis Ting
Tlx: AA 24044 AYCO
Tel: +612 233-6966
SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

BY CHARLES BACHELOR

British American & General Trust (BAGS), a £60m trust which has been moving into high technology stocks over the past year or so, yesterday rejected a £53m takeover bid from Shires Investment, a £10m trust managed by Stanecastle Assets.

Shires, a high income trust, has launched its bid just 10 days before completion of a £42m investment by BAGS in seven unquoted U.S. high technology companies. This deal will lead to the issue of 3.8m new BAGS shares, 8 per cent of its existing equity.

The bid is conditional on this deal not going through, though Shires may waive this condition, it said yesterday.

Mr. Willie Forsyth, joint founder of Stanecastle, said the U.S. investment involved the largest increase in BAGS' capital which did not require shareholders' approval and claimed a "substantial number" of shareholders had objected to the plan.

BAGS, which is managed by Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, described the Shires approach as "ill-conceived and totally inadequate". Shires made an initial approach to BAGS on Tuesday for discussions but was rebuffed.

Mr. Forsyth said: "We specialise in investment trusts and we will retain funds in the sector. Kleinwort do not have the same affiliation to the invest-

ment trust sector."

Shires intends to carry out a "substantial reorganisation" of BAGS' portfolio to invest in high income stocks.

Mr. Bobby Nicoll, a director and chairman designate of BAGS, said: "If you remove the premium over net assets from Shires' share price then they are offering less than our net asset value." The institutions are always asking us to do something new and special. It would be disappointing if they sold us out after we have moved our portfolio into the industries of the future."

Shires will make an offer for BAGS comprising a mixture of shares, convertible loan stock and warrants which put a value on each BAGS share.

It will make an alternative cash bid, worth 108.5p, which has been underwritten by County Bank.

BAGS' shares rose 1p to 119 yesterday while Shires' fell 1p to 119.

The paper bid is worth 108.09 per cent of the market asset value, the issue of capitalisation for valuing the investment trust subject to a maximum of 12.5% a, while the cash bid represents 85 per cent of this formula.

The bid is to be made in the form of consideration units comprising five Shires ordinary shares, £10 worth of 11 per cent convertible loan stock and two Shires warrants. The units had

a market value at May 20 of £25.30p, and an underwritten value of £22.50p.

Shires is offering 100p cash for each of BAGS' 887,000 cumulative £1 preference shares.

Stanecastle has grown rapidly since it was set up by Mr. Forsyth and Mr. Ian Buchanan Smith in 1982. Its first venture was to reorganise and expand Yorkshire and Lancashire Investment Trust. It took on Shires in early 1984 and now has about £40m worth of assets under management.

Earlier this month a team was absorbed the management team running Scottish Northern Investment Trust, a £178m fund.

Analysts said this rapid expansion must be stretching the small Stanecastle management team while the high yield achieved by Shires' portfolio raised doubts about the quality of its investment.

Proposals to restructure Leedon Trust into a venture capital fund managed by U.S.-based Hambrecht & Quist were formally issued yesterday after winning assurances from institutional holders of 64.8 per cent of the ordinary shares.

Shareholders are offered a cash alternative worth 50 per cent of asset value. Mr. Henry Berens, the managing director, who plans to vote against the proposals, would get £15,000 compensation for loss of office if the proposals are approved at an EGM on June 14.

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Essex builder sells stake in C. H. Bailey

North East Essex Building Company, an Essex housebuilder run by Mr. Raymond Raymond, has sold its entire holding of 450,000 "B" shares in C. H. Bailey, the Cardiff-based ship-repairer. It was believed still to hold 2.56m "A" shares, which have lower voting rights.

Mr. Raymond is among

critics of Mr. Christopher Bailey, the company's chairman, at a

New Year's Eve annual meeting.

Belgrave
Belgrave Holdings has acquired from General Electric Company its printing subsidiary, Albert Frost and Sons. The company, which is located in Rugby, will change its name to Belgrave Frost.

Reorganisation benefits double York Mount profit

With the help of reorganisation, the York Mount Group has almost doubled its profit, from £105,000 to £202,000, in 1984. The final dividend is held at 3p for an unchanged 5p net total, although there is a substantial tax charge and the dividend costs more, following conversion of the non-participating shares.

All the main board directors, with the exception of Mr. G. A. Linley, have agreed to waive their dividend entitlement.

Mr. H. Turpin, the chairman says the reorganisation of the construction and partitioning division led to its turnover being doubled to £3.04m and a turnaround from a loss of some £4,000

to a profit of £90,000. The work load is over £25m and profits are expected to show an increase in the current year.

The rent roll from investment properties continued to rise and is approaching £250,000 annually. Profit from the printing subsidiary was not as good as last year, but turnover and profits are forecast to improve in 1985.

The tax charge for 1984 was £92,000 (credit £27,000) of which £36,000 related to prior years, leaving a net profit of £110,000 (£132,000) for earnings of 2.5p basic compared with 1.33p and 3.3p fully diluted. Cost of the dividend is £84,000 (£80,000) and last year there was an extraordinary charge of £22,000.

Unilever has disposed of over a dozen companies in the last year and made over 30 acquisitions over the last two, all in core areas.

UK COMPANY NEWS

BAGS rejects £63m bid from Shires Investment

By CHARLES BACHELOR

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WALL STREET

Rate doubt challenges optimism

THE OPTIMISM seen during recent trading was challenged on Wall Street yesterday amid fresh doubts about the future course of interest rates, writes Terry Byland in New York.

The stock market quickly dipped in opening business, with the reporting tape lagging behind the trading floor for a time as sellers unloaded blue-chip stocks.

Stocks rallied sharply in the final half hour of trading, however, enabling the Dow to move over the 1,300 level. After showing a fall of around ten points for most of the session, the Dow Jones industrial average closed a net 5.94 points down at 1,303.18. Turnover of 101.8m shares denoted an active session.

Dr Henry Kaufman, the chief economist at Salomon Brothers, warned the National Council of Savings Institutions, meeting in New Orleans, that interest rates would soon rise again as the economy recovered. He foresaw a setback in bonds as the Federal Reserve "begins the first tightening action to lift the federal funds rate." He added that the timing for this was "difficult to predict."

However, Federal funds remained comfortably below 8 per cent yesterday

and modest rises in money market rates indicated little more than realignment after the substantial falls of recent sessions. Bond prices were 1/4 point off but above their lows.

Many analysts disagreed with Dr Kaufman, and some continued to predict that the Federal Reserve may even have to cut its discount rate again in order to re-stimulate the economy. The rise of 1 per cent in April orders for durable goods was in line with expectations, but once again the figures masked a sharp dip in non-defence orders.

Interest rate-sensitive issues to weak, included banks, where Bankers Trust fell 1/4 to \$724, Chase Manhattan 3/4 to \$394 and J. P. Morgan \$1 to \$314. Utility stocks, with heavy capital commitments, dipped sharply on interest rate nervousness.

Similar worries lowered stocks in the motor industry, where sales are affected by credit rates. General Motors eased 5/8 to \$394, Ford 5/8 to \$424 and Chrysler 5/8 to \$354.

Stock in General Dynamics rallied by 1/4 to \$707 after falling heavily on Tuesday. The chairman announced that he is leaving the company after the U.S. navy temporarily banned the company from new contracts. McDonnell Douglas fell \$1 to \$734 and Boeing 5/8 to \$634.

In chemicals, a weak feature was DuPont, 1/4 down at \$58. Drug stocks gave up part of their recent gains, with Merck slipping 5/8 to \$1074.

There was selling of IBM, down 5/8 at \$1324, and other computer issues to lose ground included Honeywell, 5/8 off at \$61, Burroughs 5/8 off at \$636 and Digital Equipment, 5/8 down at \$1064.

Pan American held on to its new 52-

week high of \$64 but domestic carriers were unsettled by labour problems at United, 5/8 off at \$46.

Among bid stocks, Trans World Airlines added 5/8 to \$174 in response to Mr Carl Icahn's offer of \$16 for the 76 per cent of the equity not yet owned by him. The when-issued Unocal stock jumped 5/8 to \$344 in heavy trading, while the existing stock traded around \$334.

Tobacco stocks continued to give ground as the market awaited the courtroom testing of anti-cancer suits. At \$774, R. J. Reynolds shed \$1 and Phillip Morris lost 5/8 to \$664.

In the credit markets, bond prices abandoned an attempted rally after Dr Kaufman rejected suggestions of another cut in discount rate in the near future. Trading in bonds was not heavy, however, and prices stabilised with half-point losses.

The short end, bracing itself for the sale of \$9m in two-year Treasury securities, as well as \$850m at the regular monthly bill auction, was helped by a further dip in federal funds to 7/8 per cent. However, cash flows were influenced by the weekly bank settlement operation.

EUROPE

Restraint takes hold after rises

A GENERAL easing of buying pressure was evident in European bourses yesterday as investors stepped back to assess prospects after the recent sharp advances.

Despite the weaker tone, underlying confidence remained to leave most markets at or near record levels.

In Frankfurt, the Commerzbank index moved to another record with a 2.1 rise to 1,285.9, although profit-takers appeared during late trading to trim it back from the peak.

Foreign investors showed interest again in banking and automotive stocks. Deutsche Bank topped trading in the section, moving to a record of DM 501 at one stage before easing to close up DM 12.50 at DM 499.50. Dresdner added DM 1.50 to DM 227.50 and Commerzbank was DM 3 higher at DM 188.

Daimler-Benz was the outstanding performer among automotive stocks as investors reflected confidence in the company's purchase of Dornier and the move into high technology that it will bring. The company's shares added DM 14.50 to DM 745.50.

KHD led the machine maker sector on news of a solid annual profit with the shares closing DM 5 higher at DM 248.50. Elsewhere in the sector, MAN firms DM 2.50 to DM 136 and Linde added DM 2 to DM 45.50.

VEW's announcement of a share issue encouraged buyers to push the shares up DM 7.50 to DM 140, while among other utilities GHH added 50 pf to DM 150.50.

A minor technical setback occurred in bond trading in response to the recent gains.

Leading stocks in Paris held their gains from earlier in the week with indicators virtually unchanged.

The construction sector showed the most marked selling following its recent strength. Dumez fell FF 20 to FF 705, while Bouygues eased the same amount to finish at FF 830.

Banks were the most keenly sought sector during thin trading in Amsterdam. ABN added Fl 1.50 to Fl 442.50, while mortgage bank WUH firmed Fl 1.80 to Fl 99.80 after gaining Fl 2.50 at the opening.

Insurer Aegon added 50 cents to Fl 193.50 ahead of the group's strong first-quarter results.

Royal Dutch also advanced on encouraging earnings to close Fl 2 higher at Fl 206.80.

Profit-taking appeared in Zurich, centring on blue chips. Second line companies held their ground to close largely steady.

Stocks edged forward in Brussels with improvement especially notable in the utilities sector in the wake of lower domestic interest rates.

Vieille-Montagne continued to rise on speculation that it may face a takeover offer and ended BFr 250 higher at BFr 7,210.

Concern over domestic interest rates continued to place a restraining influence on trading in Stockholm.

Volvo added Skr 2 to Skr 245 before the announcement of reduced first-quarter earnings, while Electrolux was the most actively traded stock and fell Skr 4 to Skr 289.

The tempo of trading in Madrid picked up, although volume remained light.

From an uncertain start, Milan made ground and a broad range of stocks ended marginally ahead.

SOUTH AFRICA

TRADING in Johannesburg was listless, but an improved international price for bullion helped gold shares to end firmer.

Buffels gained R2 to R56 and Driefontein added 50 cents to R52. Mining financials and other miners shadowed golds, with Gener R1.75 higher at R32.25 and Rustenburg Platinum 30 cents ahead at R17.10.

Banks and industrials were higher where changed, continuing the recent trend on softer local interest rates.

SECTION III - INTERNATIONAL MARKETS
FINANCIAL TIMES

Thursday May 23 1985

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U.S. challenges EEC
with major
dairy sale, Page 43

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A GENERAL easing of buying pressure was evident in European bourses yesterday as investors stepped back to assess prospects after the recent sharp advances.

Despite the weaker tone, underlying confidence remained to leave most markets at or near record levels.

In Frankfurt, the Commerzbank index moved to another record with a 2.1 rise to 1,285.9, although profit-takers appeared during late trading to trim it back from the peak.

Foreign investors showed interest again in banking and automotive stocks. Deutsche Bank topped trading in the section, moving to a record of DM 501 at one stage before easing to close up DM 12.50 at DM 499.50. Dresdner added DM 1.50 to DM 227.50 and Commerzbank was DM 3 higher at DM 188.

Daimler-Benz was the outstanding performer among automotive stocks as investors reflected confidence in the company's purchase of Dornier and the move into high technology that it will bring. The company's shares added DM 14.50 to DM 745.50.

KHD led the machine maker sector on news of a solid annual profit with the shares closing DM 5 higher at DM 248.50. Elsewhere in the sector, MAN firms DM 2.50 to DM 136 and Linde added DM 2 to DM 45.50.

VEW's announcement of a share issue encouraged buyers to push the shares up DM 7.50 to DM 140, while among other utilities GHH added 50 pf to DM 150.50.

A minor technical setback occurred in bond trading in response to the recent gains.

Leading stocks in Paris held their gains from earlier in the week with indicators virtually unchanged.

The construction sector showed the most marked selling following its recent strength. Dumez fell FF 20 to FF 705, while Bouygues eased the same amount to finish at FF 830.

Banks were the most keenly sought sector during thin trading in Amsterdam. ABN added Fl 1.50 to Fl 442.50, while mortgage bank WUH firmed Fl 1.80 to Fl 99.80 after gaining Fl 2.50 at the opening.

Insurer Aegon added 50 cents to Fl 193.50 ahead of the group's strong first-quarter results.

Royal Dutch also advanced on encouraging earnings to close Fl 2 higher at Fl 206.80.

Profit-taking appeared in Zurich, centring on blue chips. Second line companies held their ground to close largely steady.

Stocks edged forward in Brussels with improvement especially notable in the utilities sector in the wake of lower domestic interest rates.

Vieille-Montagne continued to rise on speculation that it may face a takeover offer and ended BFr 250 higher at BFr 7,210.

Concern over domestic interest rates continued to place a restraining influence on trading in Stockholm.

Volvo added Skr 2 to Skr 245 before the announcement of reduced first-quarter earnings.

Electrolux was the most actively traded stock and fell Skr 4 to Skr 289.

The tempo of trading in Madrid picked up, although volume remained light.

From an uncertain start, Milan made ground and a broad range of stocks ended marginally ahead.

SOUTH AFRICA

TRADING in Johannesburg was listless, but an improved international price for bullion helped gold shares to end firmer.

Buffels gained R2 to R56 and Driefontein added 50 cents to R52. Mining financials and other miners shadowed golds, with Gener R1.75 higher at R32.25 and Rustenburg Platinum 30 cents ahead at R17.10.

Banks and industrials were higher where changed, continuing the recent trend on softer local interest rates.

TOKYO

Early gains eroded by profit-taking

HELPED by Wall Street's continued advance, institutional and small investors stepped up buying to send share prices moderately higher in Tokyo, although late profit-taking eroded some early gains, writes Shigeo Nishizawa of Jiji Press.

The Nikkei-Dow market average gained 46.98 to 12,887.35 at one stage, surpassing its April 3 peak of 12,688.28, but closed 23.20 points higher at 12,873.57. Advances outpaced declines by 411 to 376, with 156 issues unchanged. Volume increased from Tuesday's 806.57 shares to 751.8m.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries was supported by foreign, institutional and individual buying and topped the active list with 89.41m shares traded to close Y9 up at Y287. Nippon Steel, the second busiest issue with 58.56m shares changing hands, advanced Y6 to Y159 and Tokyo Gas, the fifth with 24.39m shares, added Y9 to Y217.

Tokyo Electric Power gained Y50 to Y1,930, Kansai Electric Power Y50 to Y1,710 and Kawasaki Steel Y6 to Y149.

Fuji Electric, on a turnover of 28.16m shares, advanced Y18 to Y389 on its development of solar batteries using amorphous alloys.

Investor interest in biotechnology-related stocks remained strong. Asahi Chemical gained Y15 to Y10.10. Mochida Pharmaceutical and Sanaku each scored daily limit gains of Y500 and Y50 to Y10.20.

Green Cross added Y170 to Y2,800, Yamanouchi Pharmaceutical Y149 to Y3,130 and Dainippon Pharmaceutical Y120 to Y4,640.

Mitsubishi Petrochemical, attracting institutional and foreign support, registered a daily allowable rise of Y80 to Y50.

Asiatic Richelieu firmed, with Nippon Express rising Y13 to Y394, Tokyo Tatemon

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

12 Month												12 Month												12 Month													
High	Low	Stock	Div.	Yld.	Sh.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	High	Low	Stock	Div.	Yld.	Sh.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	High	Low	Stock	Div.	Yld.	Sh.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2		
2312 19 AAR	42.2 13	135 18	14	12	175	-	-	-	-	-	-	265 360	260 360	Bancroft	24.0	11	100	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184
1622 24 AGCS	4.2 12	33 14	14	12	105	11	-	-	-	-	-	164 204	164 204	Bancroft	2.50	3.0	100	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	
1672 13 AMCA	50 2.7	53 77	19	18	185	185	-	-	-	-	-	198 174	198 174	Bancroft	0.71	-	88	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	159	
2112 13 AMF	14.55 5.0	57 50	50	50	50	50	-	-	-	-	-	63 31	63 31	Bancroft	0.71	2.9	129	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137		
4712 16 AMR	9.2 10	102 45	45	45	45	45	-	-	-	-	-	174 24	174 24	Bancroft	2.0	5.8	22	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	
2132 16 AMR	9.2 10	102 21	21	21	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	141 14	141 14	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	
2562 22 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2712 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2742 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2752 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2762 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2772 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2782 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2792 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2802 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2812 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2822 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2832 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2842 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2852 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2862 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2872 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4	128	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162	162		
2882 14 AMR	9.2 10	102 24	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	49 45	49 45	Bethell	0.51	2.4																					

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

12 Month High												12 Month Low												12 Month High													
Stock	Div. Yld.	P/E	100s	High	Low	Close	Prev. Div.	Stock	Div. Yld.	P/E	100s	High	Low	Close	Prev. Div.	Stock	Div. Yld.	P/E	100s	High	Low	Close	Prev. Div.	Stock	Div. Yld.	P/E	100s	High	Low	Close	Prev. Div.						
AGC	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Buchi pL50	0.6	7	51	5	51	1.2	1.2	DomeP	1440	2	51	15	15	15	10%	GRCD	9.32	1.1	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	
AMC	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Buchi n	8	161	104	5	51	1.2	1.2	DomeP	9.32	23	15	20	25	27	23	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	
AMC Int'l	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	CDI	3	14	10	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	3	181	124	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
ATT	0.76	6.2	10	34	41	4	1.2	CRS	34	18	18	35	35	35	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	CassCo	1.20	16	15	15	15	15	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP	9.32	10	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15		
ATT&T	1.2	10.7	14	35	15	51	1.2	Cathay	1.20	5.5	11	20	20	20	1.2	DomeP																					

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

NOTES—Prices on this page are as quoted on the individual exchanges and are last traded prices. \$ Gesttings suspended. \ddagger Ex dividend. $\ddagger\ddagger$ Ex scrip issue. $\ddagger\ddagger\ddagger$ Ex rights. $\ddagger\ddagger\ddagger\ddagger$ Ex all.

CANADA

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FINANCIAL TIMES

EUROPE'S BUSINESS NEWSPAPER



International Financier

DAIWA
SECURITIES

BRITISH FUNDS

1985	High	Low	Stock	Price	Per	Div	Yield	Yield
"Shorts" (Lives up to Five Years)								
1000	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1001	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1002	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1003	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1004	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1005	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1006	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1007	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1008	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1009	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1010	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1011	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1012	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1013	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1014	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1015	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1016	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1017	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1018	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1019	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1020	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1021	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1022	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1023	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1024	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1025	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1026	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1027	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1028	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1029	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1030	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1031	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1032	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1033	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1034	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1035	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1036	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1037	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1038	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1039	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1040	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1041	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1042	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1043	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1044	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1045	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1046	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1047	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1048	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1049	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1050	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1051	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1052	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1053	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1054	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1055	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1056	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1057	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1058	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1059	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1060	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1061	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1062	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1063	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1064	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1065	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1066	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1067	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1068	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1069	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1070	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1071	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1072	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1073	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1074	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1075	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1076	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1077	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1078	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1079	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1080	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1081	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1082	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1083	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1084	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1085	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1086	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1087	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1088	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1089	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1090	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1091	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1092	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1093	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1094	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1095	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1096	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1097	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1098	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1099	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1100	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1101	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1102	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1103	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1104	99	98	12/22	11.25	1.25			
1105	99	98	12/22					

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COMMODITIES AND AGRICULTURE

U.S. takes on EEC with major surplus dairy sale

BY NANCY DUNNE IN WASHINGTON

THE THREAT of an agriculture trade war between the U.S. and the EEC loomed ever larger yesterday, following the announcement by Mr John Block, the U.S. Agriculture Secretary, of two American dairy sales to traditional Community markets.

The U.S. has agreed to sell some government surplus stocks — \$7.5m worth of dried milk, to be used as calves milk replacer, to Spain and \$1.35m worth of butter oil (3,000 tonnes) to Jamaica.

France is usually the largest supplier of butter oil to Jamaica, with the U.S. second and the UK third, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture officials. Spain is a major importer of EEC dried milk and whey products used in animal feed.

The sale comes a week after Secretary Block announced a different scheme to subsidise U.S. farm exports with government-owned commodities. He attempts to restore order to the International Dairy Agree-

ment (IDA).

The U.S. left the IDA, set up under the auspices of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, in 1973 in January following the EEC's unilateral decision to make a large sale of cut-price butter out of its own surplus stocks to the Soviet Union last year, and subsequent wave of cut-price sales by other exporters.

The EEC deal has since been granted a waiver from the IDA's minimum price provisions, and recent negotiations in Geneva have focused on attempting to set up a mechanism whereby the Community could make another big cut-price sale to Russia without causing major surprise to the Agreement.

The U.S. sale will not unduly surprise IDA member countries, however, as Washington said when it pulled out of the Agreement that it planned offload parts of its surplus in this way.

U.S. crude oil stocks resume advance

By Our Washington Staff

U.S. STOCKS of crude oil rose last week by 1.5m barrels to a total of 345.5m barrels, reversing the previous week's downturn. But they lagged behind last year's figures by 9.4m barrels. In the same week in 1984 stocks stood at 357.9m barrels according to the American Petroleum Institute.

Stocks of petroleum were 216.2m barrels, slightly up over the week. However, they showed a considerable shortfall of 32.7m barrels on 1984 levels.

Lower stocks of leaded petrol accounted for over 75 per cent of the difference.

U.S. petrol prices have soared by 5 cents since Easter to a national average of \$1.25, about the same price at this time last year, according to the American Automobile Association. Prices are expected to continue to rise slightly during the summer months.

Imports of crude oil dropped slightly to 3.6m barrels approximately the same level as last year.

Stocks of distillate fuel oil totalled 93.8m barrels, a gain of 3.3m barrels on the week before.

A year ago the figure was 97.5m barrels.

Residual fuel oil stocks declined by 1.3m barrels to 42.1m barrels over the week.

The weighted average for the 23,508 packages of landed tea sold at London's London sale

at 133.4p last week and 253.12p a year ago. The average for the 436,890 packages sold so far this year is 218.71p against 266.44p for the 405,793 packages sold by the same stage last year.

World Production of 16 major oils and fats in the second half of this season is likely to rise to 32.4m tonnes from 30.4m in the same 1984 period, bringing this season's total increase to 3.4m tonnes, the Hamburg-based newsletter Oil World said.

Traders were baffled by the re-emergence of the cash premium, or backwardation, which comes only days after the normal three-month price had been restored, leading to hopes that the recent long supply squeeze was slackening off.

They said it did not appear to have been sparked by the same operators as caused the previous squeeze.

The cash price closed at £1.21.00 per tonne, compared with Tuesday's final level of £1.19.75. The three-month price ended at £1.19.75, against a previous £1.17.50.

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Higher Interest

Should Britain pull out of CERN, Europe's high-energy physics research centre at Geneva, to concentrate more resources on strategic areas of science like biotechnology and advanced computers?

Do the science-parks that so many universities and polytechnics have set up next to their campuses to attract high-tech companies really open up an exciting new dialogue between academy and industry?

Are universities managed efficiently — or should they take a leaf out of industry's book and be run more like businesses, as the recent Jarratt inquiry has recommended?

These and many similar questions vital to Britain's future industrial and commercial strength are addressed every week in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, Britain's only newspaper for those who teach and research in universities and polytechnics — and for those with a vital interest in what they do. Doesn't that include you?

The Times Higher Education Supplement

On sale at newsagents, every week

OVER-THE-COUNTER

Continued from Page 44

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Last	Chng	Stock	Sales	High	Low	Last	Chng	Stock	Sales	High	Low	Last	Chng	Stock	Sales	High	Low	Last	Chng
OldKfm	70	250	41	255	+5	PPPS	105	6555	95	55	-5	NET	Ca 2.50	53	33	22	-1	USGS	1.06	167	55	55	-1
OldKm	1	250	35	25	+2	Philips	504	1908	151	151	-1	Recom	15	7	6	6	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OldNB	2	2	53	53	+2	Primex	5	80	25	25	-1	Radcom	54	7	35	32	-3	UPG	1.45	294	70	70	-1
OldPd	2	257	335	325	-12	Philips	26	203	57	57	-1	Reveres	523	10	55	55	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OldSm	2.08	2.08	265	255	-12	Polycom	50	100	25	25	-1	Sharm	5	14	14	14	+1	UPG	1.54	300	70	70	-1
OldSp	105	49	21	21	-1	Polycom	26	105	25	25	-1	ShawSt	72	43	25	25	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OldSt	2.58	75	22	21	-1	Polycom	26	105	25	25	-1	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OneBco	266	135	195	175	+1	Polycom	50	56	22	22	-1	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OneCm	222	55	65	65	-1	Polycom	50	13	14	14	-1	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	94	15	25	25	-1	Polycom	50	13	14	14	-1	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	423	473	465	465	-2	Polycom	30	33	20	18	-2	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	24	164	164	164	+1	Polycom	50	13	14	14	-1	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	333	29	31	31	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	2.50	231	174	174	-11	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	1.20	191	191	174	-11	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	258	61	73	73	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	588	83	83	83	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	1165	133	133	133	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	15	51	51	51	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	23	304	291	291	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	2	54	54	54	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	57	93	93	93	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	1.20	25	25	25	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
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OpticC	1.20	25	25	25	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	1.20	25	25	25	-1	Polycom	50	12	31	28	-3	ShawSt	73	71	71	71	-1	UPG	1.50	294	70	70	-1
OpticC	1.20	25	25	25	-1																		